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MEMORIAL

OF THE

LIVES AND SERVICES

OF

JAMES PITTS

AND HIS SONS,

JOHN, SAMUEL AND LENDALL,

DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION,

1760-1780.

WITH

GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL APPENDIX,

BY

DANIEL GOODWIN, JR.

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"The patriotic youth of this and succeeding generations, who wish to learn and know the true origin of the Independence of the country and its early achievements in the cause of liberty—who wish to imbue into their own hearts the fullness of that spirit, will keep their attention turned constantly to this spot, whence issued the light, which, in 1775, illumined the continent."—*Daniel Webster's last speech, in Faneuil Hall.*

The following memorials of two of your Revolutionary ancestors, James Pitts and Elizabeth Bowdoin, I dedicate to the grandchildren of Samuel Mountfort Pitts and Sarah Merrill, ten in number, recorded in the Family Bible as

Henry Martyn Duffield, Jr.,
Samuel Pitts Cranage,
Mary Cranage,
Samuel Pitts Duffield,
Divie Bethune Duffield,
Helen S. Pitts,
Francis Duffield,
Morse Stewart Duffield,
Samuel Lendall Pitts and
Graham Duffield,

all born between 1865 and 1876, one hundred years after the events I mean especially to review, hoping and believing that a study of the characters of the great departed will ennoble your own aspirations toward the highest and best development. My attention has been especially directed to this subject of late from the purchase by Mr. Thomas Pitts, of the original portraits of James Pitts, the councilor, and his wife Elizabeth, and their only daughter Mrs. Col. Warner, and by a recent visit to the city where they lived their memorable lives, and from a conversation with and perusal of the extensive historical and patriotic addresses of the great orator, Robert C. Winthrop, who draws his lineage through two of the same lines with yourselves, James Lindall and James Bowdoin, of the seventeenth century. As you increase in years and understanding, may you begin and end your examination of these pages in the spirit so well expressed by Divie Bethune Duffield, at the golden wedding of 1867: "It becomes us to remember that the virtues of those glorious men and women were personally and only *their own*, and not ours. Cherish their memories as fountains of inspiration, looking upon them as examples after whom you may fashion your own lives, so that in the generations to come your names may be in the golden record of departed ancestry."

"WHO IS MR. PITTS?"

"Who is Mr. Pitts?" asked George III, of Gov. Hutchinson, at the memorable interview between those distinguished characters and Lord Dartmouth, on the 1st of July, 1774. The lapse of a century has so covered the memory of Mr. Pitts and his family, that few persons of the present year of grace, 1882, know more of him than did King George III. That arbitrary king and his infamous administration learned to their sorrow to know and appreciate Mr. Pitts and his family, and it will be a labor of pleasure to now recall their memory to all lovers of patriotism, self-sacrifice and exalted virtue.

This memorial will be written with no desire to trumpet the virtues of that worthy man through the halls of ambition or fame, but only with a view of brushing from his memory the dust which an hundred years have covered over it. His descendants are few and widely scattered. The great wealth possessed by that generation of the family was soon scattered, and gone, and most of those who drew their blood from his lineage, have been actively engaged in places far distant from the scene of his labors and influence, and to-day no one remains to bear the name in old Boston, the city where "Pitts street" and "Pitts wharf," and the Pitts tomb, in King's Chapel burying-ground, sometimes recall the name of a forgotten hero to the passer-by. So it is with the Lindall and Bowdoin families, with whom he was so closely allied, his mother being a Lindall and his wife a Bowdoin. No Lindall or Bowdoin descendant in the male line is known to exist anywhere, and the few male members of the Pitts family all reside far from the old Bay State, whose political and financial foundations they helped to lay.

James Bowdoin was the President of the convention which framed the constitution of that State, and his nephew, John Pitts, was the Speaker of the first House of Representatives of Massachusetts, in 1778, and to-day there is no living descendant to either of them, in the male line, to bear their names.

Of the early life of James Pitts I have been able as yet to learn but little. His father, John Pitts, was a son of Berwick Pitts, of Lyme Regis, County Dorset, England, a small seaport on the southern coast.

Here John was born about 1668, and came to Boston about 1695 and was a merchant of prominence and success.

On the 10th of September, 1697, he married Elizabeth Lindall, a daughter of James and Susannah Lindall[2], of Duxbury, born May 28, 1684, and died 1720. His father, James Lindall[1], came from England when a young man, probably in 1639. [See Rev. Dr. Vinton's sketch, New Eng. Gen. Reg., VII, p. 15.] He died in 1652, and his will was witnessed by Miles Standish and John Alden. [New Eng. Gen. Reg., IV, p. 242, *et ante*]. His executor was Constant Southworth. Robert C. Winthrop, descendant of James Bowdoin, is a descendant, in the seventh generation, from James Lindall[1], his father being Thomas Lindall Winthrop, son of Jane Borland Lindall, who was a daughter of Judge Timothy Lindall, born 1677, died 1760, who graduated at Harvard in 1695, and was a Councilor from 1727 to 1731. He left a large estate, a long will and many heirs. All the families mentioned by Vinton and Winthrop spell the name Lindall. I have no doubt Lendall Pitts, of the tea-party, was named for his grandmother, and that the spelling was changed without particular reason or design.

The first American Pitts born of this family was John, born in 1700, died in 1727; the next was Elizabeth, born in 1703, married Hugh Hall in 1722; the next was Sarah, born in 1705, married William Stoddard in 1721; the next was Thomas, in 1707. He graduated at Harvard, in 1726, and commenced the study of the law, but died that same year.

The third son, James, the principal subject of this memoir, was born, in 1712, at Boston, one year later than his distinguished enemy of later years, Gov. Hutchinson. He entered Harvard, in 1727, and graduated in 1731, being second on the roll of thirty-four.

The lapse of a century and a half has left us but little record of old John Pitts, the founder of the American family, or of the elder James Bowdoin, his contemporary; but a fact stated by John Quincy Adams (Life of John Adams, p. 14) shows that both of those families commanded a very high position as early as 1727.

"The distinction of ranks at Harvard University was observed with such punctilious nicety that, in the arrangement of every class, precedence was assigned to every individual according to the dignity of his birth, or to the rank of his parents. John Adams was thus placed the fourteenth in a class of twenty-four. This custom continued until the class which entered in 1769, when the substitution of the alphabetical order in the names and places of the members of each

class may be considered as a pregnant indication of the republican principles which were rising to an ascendency over those which had prevailed during the colonial state of the country."

The only predecessor of James Pitts in the class of 1731, was Judge Russell, and he was followed by a Sparhawk, a Gookin, a Sewall and a Cushing. In the class of 1745, numbering twenty-four, James Bowdoin also ranked second, his father having been, for many years, one of the king's Council. John Pitts was seventh in the class of 1757, and his wife's father, John Tyng, was second in the class of 1725. Pitts Hall, a nephew of James, was sixth in the class of 1747.

Among Mr. Pitts' college-mates were Gov. Jonathan Belcher, Judge Oliver, Prof. John Winthrop—the last his warm co-patriot in the Council for many years.

Soon after James Pitts graduated, his father died, leaving him, in his twentieth year sole heir to a fortune and an established business. On the 26th of October, 1732, he married Elizabeth Bowdoin, in her sixteenth year, the beautiful daughter of the Councilor, James Bowdoin, and Hannah Portage. Bowdoin was the wealthiest man in New England at that time, and his connection must have been of great advantage to Mr. Pitts, financially and socially. In March, 1733, he became sole executor and principal legatee of his grandmother Susannah, wife of James Lindall and afterward wife of John Jacobs, who left a large estate. (See her will, p. 49 post.) September 8, 1747, Mr. Bowdoin died, leaving a will, appointing James Pitts, James Bowdoin and Thomas Flucker, his executors. In addition to his private business and the settlement of the estates of his father and grandmother, the management of the estate of James Bowdoin brought upon him an immense labor. Mr. Bowdoin was chief member of the Kennebec Company, who owned 20,000 acres of land on the Kennebec River, which, with its fall of 1,000 feet in 150 miles, presented a grand field for improvement. I have one of the original advertisements by James Bowdoin, James Pitts, Silvester Gardiner, Benjamin Hallowell and William Bowdoin, 20th February, 1761, proposing to grant to each settling family 250 acres, on condition only that each family should build a house and clear five acres, and dwell there seven years. James Pitts had one daughter—Elizabeth, who married Col. Jonathan Warner, of Portsmouth, and six sons—John, James, Thomas, William, Samuel and Lendall. At that time, under George II, the colonies were at peace with England, and the warmest cordiality existed between them. The crafty Walpole and his good Queen, Caroline, always carried out their

great principle of expediency and keeping the nation at peace. The Queen died, in 1737, and Walpole resigned in 1742.

The merchants of Boston had, for years, carried on a profitable trade with foreign nations, and had grown wealthy and lived in luxury and ease. Boston was then the largest and finest city in America, and larger and better built than any city in England, except London. They were in constant communication with the mother country, and read the books then coming out by the old English and Scotch worthies. Mr. John Oldmixon, of England, published, in 1741, a second edition of his "British Empire in America," in which he says:

"Conversation in Boston is as polite as in most of the cities and towns in England, many of their merchants having traded in Europe, and those that stayed at home having the advantage of society with travellers; so that a gentleman from London would almost think himself at home at Boston, when he observes the number of people, their houses, their furniture, their tables, their dress and conversation, which, perhaps, is as splendid and showy as that of the most considerable tradesman in London. Upon the whole, Boston is the most flourishing town for trade and commerce in the English America. Near 600 sail of ships have been laden here in a year for Europe and the British Plantations. The goodness of the pavement may compare with most in London."

They were deeply imbued with the theories and teachings of government of Milton, Sidney, Hampden, Pym and Locke.

It will require little imagination to fill up a lovely picture of the Pitts home from 1732 to 1760. Youth, health, wealth, success, college acquaintances, social life of the best and purest kind, and characters of inflexible virtue and independence, as exhibited in their future public life, must have combined to make an ideal home.

In 1753, their oldest son, John, born in 1738, entered Harvard, and his father, at forty-one, and his mother, at thirty-six, kept alive the freshness of life that needed not, in their case, any renewal. John's rank was seven in a class of twenty-six, his predecessors being Atkinson, Vassall, Appleton, Livingston, Erving and Russell—all very distinguished families; he was followed by Peter Chardon, Edward Brooks, Theophilus Bradbury and other leading names. Among his college mates were John Adams, John Hancock, John Wentworth, David Sewall, S. H. Parsons and Jonathan Trumbull. What a galaxy of stars! How Grandmother Bowdoin Pitts, only thirty-six years old when her boy was a Freshman, and only forty when he was a graduate, must have enjoyed the college days of those boys?

From the meager evidence in my possession, I should think it probable that all of the sons entered into business with their father. They are all spoken of as merchants, engaged in building and buying ships and using them in foreign trade with the Bermudas and other places.* It is not probable that John continued long in any business, except the care of property, for he soon married Elizabeth, the only child of a very rich gentleman, Judge John Tyng, who graduated at Harvard in 1725, for many years a member of the House and Council and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Middlesex County, from 1763 to 1786. John Adams said, in a letter to William Tudor, February 4, 1817 : " Gov. Pownall was the most constitutional and national Governor who ever represented the crown in this Province. His conciliatory and comprehensive system was too refined and too sublime for human nature in this contentious, warring world. In pursuance of it he consulted Chief Justice Pratt and Judge John Tyng. Tyng was Chief Judge after the Revolution." He was only son of Maj. William Tyng, who was son of Col. Jonathan Tyng, Judge of the Common Pleas from 1702 to 1719, and one of Sir Edmund Andros' Council, under James II. Col. Jonathan Tyng was son of Hon. Edward Tyng, born in Dunstable, England, in 1600, who came to Boston, in 1639, and was one of His Majesty's Council, and was deputed to carry out the grant of 100 acres of land to Pierre Bowdoin, by warrant, dated October 8, 1687.—(New Eng. Gen. Reg., XI, p. 284 ; Winthrop's Bowdoin, p. 4.)

Mr. James Pitts was a Congregationalist, and attended the church of the famous patriot and preacher, Dr. Samuel Cooper. In Andrews' letter (Mass. Hist. Pro., 1864–65, p. 322), February, 1772, he says : " Dr. Cooper's congregation have at last concluded to pull down their old cathedral, and build as grand a house as our native materials will admit of. They have computed it to cost £8,000 sterling. Mr. Bowdoin gave £200 ; Pitts, Erving and Gray £100 sterling each. James Pitts was for many years Treasurer of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge among the Indians. I have a copy of a bond for £2,000 by John Kneeland and Nathaniel Cary to him as such Treasurer, in 1873, conditioned for the payment to him of one third of the whole estate of Richard Martyn, under his will, for the use of that society.

James Pitts' residence, for many years, was on the spot where the

*There is an interesting account of the Bermudas in *Harper's Magazine*, December, 1873, page 484, and a beautiful picture of Pitts Bay. It says that during our Revolution, their sympathies were warmly enlisted in favor of the Colonies and States; that a large amount of gunpowder disappeared mysteriously from there in 1775, two months after the battle of Bunker Hill. Probably the Pitts family could have explained its change of base.

Howard Atheneum now stands, though it seems he owned, at the time of his death, the old Vassall mansion on the Auburn road, opposite the residence of the poet, Longfellow. There is a full and interesting description of this ancient mansion, by Thomas C. Amory, classmate of Samuel M. Pitts (Vol. XXV, p. 237, New Eng. Gen. Reg.) It was built by the Belchers, who sold it, in 1720, to John Vassall, who sold it to Henry Vassall. It was conveyed by Henry Vassall and wife to James Pitts, December 11, 1748, and was afterward bought by Andrew Craigie, and since 1842 has been the home of Samuel Batchelder. I have John Pitts' original letter to Col. Warner, saying he had sold this place to Nathaniel Tracey, May 10, 1782.

It is said by Drake & Bridgman that Mr. Pitts' Boston home was a favorite meeting-place for the patriotic clubs. He and all his boys were Sons of Liberty. John Adams, in his diary, February 15, 1771, speaks of "going to Mr. Pitts' to meet the Kennebec Company—Bowdoin, Gardiner, Hallowell and Pitts. There I shall hear philosophy and politics in perfection from H.: high-flying, high church, high State from G.: sedate, cool moderation from Bowdoin; AND WARM, HONEST, FRANK WHIGGISM FROM PITTS."

January 10, 1771, he says: "Dined at John Erving's with Gray, Pitts, Hancock, Adams [Samuel], Townsend and others."

June 30, 1772, he says: "It has been my fate to be acquainted, in the way of my business, with a number of very rich men—Gardiner, Bowdoin, Pitts, Hancock, Rowe, Lee, Sargent, Hooper and Doane. There is not one of those who derives more pleasure from his property than I do from mine: my little farm, and stock, and cash, afford me as much satisfaction, as all their immense tracts, extensive navigation, sumptuous buildings, their vast sums at interest, and stocks in trade, yield to them."

At the hospitable board of James Pitts and Elizabeth Bowdoin must often have been seen the form of Samuel Adams, the father of the Revolution, whose portrait, by Copley, and whose statues at Washington and Boston are much admired. There was, through all their lives, the most cordial friendship between the Pitts and that old hero, and, on page 262, Vol. XIV, of the New Eng. Gen. Reg., you will find among the subscribers to pay his debts, the names of Hon. James Pitts and Hon. James Bowdoin, each £60. Young James Pitts, Richard Dana, Samuel Dexter, Dr. Joseph Warren John Erving and John Hancock contributed also. What a company! I do not know how soon Mr. Pitts entered into public life, nor what inferior places of trust and responsibility he filled before being elected to the highest in the gift of

the people, that of a member of the Council. Under the charter of the Massachusetts Colony, the Governor was appointed by the British King, and the people elected a House of Representatives—only men of property—and, up to 1764, only members of some Christian church could vote: so that three-quarters of the community was excluded, and the better elements of society controlled these elections. This annual election was an important day in old Boston. The church members and property owners met in a body, and before voting, had divine service and a sermon from some minister selected by the Selectmen, of Boston, a body of seven men, to whom the affairs of the city were committed. At the annual meeting in May, 1775, after the King and Parliament had legislated out of office the old Council and Judges of the colony, Samuel Langdon, the President of Harvard University, preached the annual sermon from the text: "And I will restore the Judges as at the first, and thy Councilors as at the beginning; afterward thou shalt be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city." The House of Representatives, elected directly by the people, sitting with the last Council, elected a new Council, which was limited to twenty-eight, and these two houses and the Governor constituted the Government for the colony as a unit, the Governor having the right to veto or negative the election of any Councilor. These twenty-eight Councilors were to the State what the United States' Senate is to the United States, or the House of Lords is to England.

From May, 1634, to August, 1774, these two houses sat apart, and were co-ordinate and co-equal branches, the assent of both being necessary to make a law.

To this high position in the State, Mr. Pitts and his brothers-in-law Bowdoin and Thomas Flucker, were, for many years, annually elected by the House of Representatives and the outgoing Council, and for several years it chanced that one of the twenty-eight was Judge Gamaliel Bradford,* grand-father to Elizabeth Bradford Merrill. The first prominent

*Hon. Gamaliel Bradford was a great-grandson of William B., second Governor of Plymouth Colony. He shared largely in all the duties of the public offices in that town. He was a friend of education, and did much toward the maintenance and improvement of the public schools. He for several years represented the town in the Legislature, and during the trying period from 1764 to 1770, was a member of the Executive Council. He was for many years Judge of the County Court. He also held command of the company of militia in his native town, and, about 1750, was raised to the command of the regiment with the rank of Colonel. In his declining years, he witnessed with patriotic ardor the uprising of the Sons of Liberty, and, though his heart was with them, he was unable by active exertion to assist in the crowning glories of true-born freemen. He died in Duxbury, April 24, 1778, having nearly reached his seventy-fourth year. (Winson's Hist. of Duxbury, page 148; Mass. Hist. Col., Third Series, I, 202).

notice of James Pitts, I have found, was in 1760. Gov. Pownall left Boston for the governorship of South Carolina in March, 1760. At a full town meeting an address was unanimously voted him, in which the inhabitants acknowledged their great obligations to him; on the 17th of May a committee waited on him with the address, among whom was James Pitts. I find the next notice of him in Bradford's Mass., p. 452. The stamp act which had excited the people of New England almost to frenzy, and had nearly brought on a revolution in fact, as it did in spirit, was repealed by the King, and Parliament, on the 18th of March, 1766. On the 7th of June, 1766, the Council adopted an eloquent address of congratulation to Gov. Bernard, and it was presented by Messrs. Brattle, Gamaliel Bradford, James Pitts, Thomas Flucker * and Powell.

On the 27th of October, 1768, an address was signed by the Council, to Gen. Gage, reminding him that the people had been misrepresented; that the disorders in the town had been greatly magnified, and spoke of his candor, generosity and justice, as a safeguard to counteract the misrepresentations which had been made by the enemies of the town. They endeavored to convince him that there was no occasion for so great a number of troops in the place, and hoped he would have them removed to the castle. This was signed, among others, by James Pitts, Samuel Dexter, James Bowdoin and Gamaliel Bradford.

Gen. Gage thanked them for the honor done him, but declined to remove the troops, which led to constant troubles with the people, and, in 1769, the Council and House refused to do any public business so long as the troops were there, stationed within reach of their halls, upon which Gov. Bernard adjourned them to meet at Cambridge; and then they refused to proceed to business at Cambridge, because their removal was illegal; but, in June, they proceeded to business there, under protest, and, on the 27th, they petitioned the King for his removal. From 1766 till the final rupture with England, Mr. Pitts was annually elected to the Council, and sat as a law-maker and Executive officer in the halls of Harvard University, where he had for four years been a pupil.

More literally true, perhaps, than was intended, were the words of the orator, John Quincy Adams, to the schoolboys of Boston, in Fan-

* Thomas Flucker married Judith Bowdoin in 1744, the only full sister of Mrs. Pitts. He was, in 1774, Secretary of the Province, and a Mandamus Councilor—sided with the loyalists, went to London and died there in 1783. His daughter Lucy married Maj. Gen. Henry Knox, who was Secretary of War from 1785 to 1795. Drake says: "She was a lady, who, after the Revolution, became a principal ornament of the first circle of America."

euil Hall, in 1826, when he said: "It was by the midnight lamps of "Harvard Hall that were conceived and matured, as it was within "these hallowed walls that were first resounded the accents of that "Independence which is now canonized in the memory of those by "whom it was proclaimed."*

Robert C. Winthrop, in his life of Bowdoin, says: "It would not be easy to overstate the importance to the ultimate success of American liberty and independence, of the course pursued by the Council and House of Representatives of Massachusetts, during the greater part of this period—a controversy, beginning as early as 1757, and which lasted till the final independence. Indeed, if any one would fully understand the rise and progress of Revolutionary principles on this continent; if he would understand the arbitrary and tyrannical doctrines which were asserted by the British ministry, and the prompt resistance and powerful refutation which they met at the hands of our New England patriots, he must read what are called The Massachusetts State Papers, containing the messages of the Governor to the Legislature, and the answers of the two branches of the Legislature to the Governor. He will find here almost all the great principles and questions of that momentous controversy. Trial by Jury, Regulation of Trade, Taxation without Representation, the Stamp Act, the Tea Tax and the rest, stated and argued with unsurpassed ability and spirit." Daniel Webster, in his oration at Bunker Hill, speaks of these State papers with equal praise, as did Chatham and Burke, in England Gov. Hutchinson says that Bowdoin, as Chairman of the Committee in the Council, was without a rival, and, being united in principles with the leading men in the House, measures were concerted between him and them, and from this time the Council, in scarcely any instance, disagreed with the House. Bowdoin was indeed the bright particular star in those dark days, but his brother, James Pitts, in the Council, and his nephew, John Pitts, in the House, were always backing and supporting him.

During all the ten years of continual warfare between the King and his ministers, and Governors and officers, on the one side, and the Council and Assembly of Massachusetts, and the people, on the other

*I had the good fortune to have seen and heard John Quincy Adams, "the old man eloquent," in his seventy-seventh year, in 1843. A public reception was given him at Auburn, N. Y. A committee, of which Gov. Seward, Judge Conkling and my uncle, Stephen A. Goodwin, were members, escorted him from Rochester, and gave him a public reception, when Gov. Seward welcomed him in an impressive speech, and the old orator made a happy response

side, James Pitts was inflexibly on the side of the people and liberty, and against the royal prerogative. This battle was peculiarly hard in the Council, for there the King had a stronger party than in the House. The town meetings and the House of Representatives were always for American liberty and against every usurpation of the crown ; but the Governor and Lieutenant Governor were appointed directly by the crown, and the Governor had a right to veto or negative the election of a Councilor—a right which he exercised nearly every year, and the Councilors, being generally men of age and wealth or rank were naturally conservative.

Bernard and Hutchinson often contended that the Council was peculiarly intended to assist the crown, and all the influences of royal power tended to incline the Council to uphold the Government, but Mr. Pitts was always on the side of the people of Massachusetts.

A most notable instance of this occurred at the time when Samuel Adams and a committee of citizens demanded from Gov. Hutchinson the removal of the troops from Boston in 1770. The military troops stationed at Boston were a continual fret to the people. Horse-racing on the common by the soldiers, on Sunday, and military parades in the streets, grated on the feelings of a church-going people ; personal quarrels and brawls were continually taking place, and finally the massacre on King street threw the people into a ferment of passion.* At a town

*The following incident from Andrews' letters will illustrate the daily experience of those days when Boston was possessed by British soldiers:

"August 1, 1774. A few days since fifteen officers dined at a house toward New Boston, improved by one of the Miss Erskines, when toward evening they committed all manner of indecencies, and at dusk they began to break up and go off two or three at a time, insulting people as they passed the streets. Five of them sallied out with their cutlasses drawn and met Mr. Alva Hunt, a well-built, nervous fellow, with his wife, the latter of whom they began to abuse, at which the husband, with a hickory walking-stick, aimed a blow at ye officers head and laid it open, and had he not been prevented by ye inhabitants from repeating the stroke he must have demolished him, upon which they laid about with their weapons and cleared the street of all the inhabitants save Samuel Jarvis, Samuel Pitts, one Fullerton, Hunt and a negro fellow, each of whom disarmed one without hurting them, save the negro, who knocked his down with a billet of wood that he took from a pile that lay in the street. Samuel Pitts only of the inhabitants got wounded in the affray, having parried off several of their blows with his cane, one stroke in particular aimed at him must inevitably have layed his skull open which he had not opportunity to guard against, having two upon him at once, but fortunately for him he was standing against a fence and ye cutlass struck against it just above his head and retarded the stroke, which was immediately repeated across his belly, when he received it upon his left hand, whereby his knuckles are split open and he is likely to loose the use of two or three fingers, etc. (Mass. His. Pro., 1864-65, p. 322.)

"Samuel Pitts was one of the Cadet Company. August 16, 1774, it agrees to disband.

meeting, Samuel Adams and a large committee were appointed to wait on Gov. Hutchinson and the Council, and demand the removal of the troops. The committee (Frothingham's Warren, p. 143), about 4 o'clock, repaired to the Council chamber. It was a room respectable in size, and not without ornament or historic memorials. On its walls were representations of the two elements, now in conflict, of the absolutism that was passing away, in full-length portraits of Charles II and James II, robed in the royal ermine, and of a republicanism that had grown robust and self-reliant, in the heads of Endicott, and Winthrop, and Bradstreet, and Belcher. Around a long table were seated the Lieutenant Governor and the members of the Council, with the military officers; the scrupulous and sumptuous costumes of civilians in authority—gold and silver lace, scarlet cloaks and large wigs, mingling with the brilliant uniforms of the British Army and Navy. Into such imposing presence was now ushered the plainly attired committee of the town. At this time, the Governor, a portion of the Council, the military officers, the Secretary of the Province, and other officials in the Town House, were sternly resolved to refuse compliance with the demand of the people. Adams remarked at length on the illegality of quartering troops on the inhabitants in times of peace, and without the consent of the Legislature; adverted with warmth to the late tragedy; painted the misery in which the town would be involved if the troops were suffered to remain, and urged the necessity of an immediate compliance with the vote of the people. The Governor, in a brief reply, defended both the legality and necessity of the troops, and asserted that they were not subject to his authority. Adams again rose, and attention was riveted on him as he paused, and gave a searching look at Hutchinson. The famous picture by Copley, in Faneuil Hall, represents Adams as he appeared at this moment. Adams made another impassioned appeal, and the committee retired. Now came the controversy between the Governor and Col. Dalrymple, and the officers and the crown officials, and many members of the Council, on the one

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"August 17. Yesterday a committee from the Cadet Company waited upon His Excellency at Salem, consisting of Gavent Johomot, Foster and Samuel Pitts, attended by the company servant bearing the standard. He received them and their address with politeness, but was somewhat nettled at the contents, as his answer evidently shows, being very laconic and expressive of chagrin and disappointment. He accepted their color, and told them Mr. Hancock had used him ill by personally affronting him, and that he would not receive an affront from any man in the province, and had he previously known their intentions, should have disbanded them himself. (Mass. Hist. Pro., 1864–65, pp. 324, 343.")

side, and Messrs. Tyler, James Pitts and Samuel Dexter,* on the other. We have it, in Gov. Hutchinson's own letter of March 18, 1770, to Sir Francis Bernard: "If the Council would have joined me and encouraged the people to wait until there could be an order from Gen. Gage, they might have been appeased; but instead of that, the major part of them encouraged them in their demand, and, upon the representations made of the state of the people by Tyler, backed by S——, Pitts and Dexter, Col. Dalrymple told them he would remove the Twenty-ninth Regiment till he could hear from the General. I wished to have been clear of the Council in the afternoon, but it was not possible."

The result was the removal of the troops from Boston to Castle William, and, without detracting from the triumph of Samuel Adams and his committee, it is but just to give some unqualified praise for that great triumph to James Pitts and Samuel Dexter, who had a much harder contest than did Adams. He was the spokesman of thousands of incensed, and most of them irresponsible, citizens; while Pitts and Dexter had to fight their own class, as well as the army officers, the Governor and Secretary, and the silent influence of George III and his almost omnipotent Parliament and ministry. In 1817, Adams wrote that this scene deserved to be painted as much as the surrender of Burgoyne. He describes "Gov. Hutchinson at the head of the Council table, Col. Dalrymple, as Commander-in-Chief of the King's troops, seated at his side. Eight and twenty Councilors must be painted, all seated at the Council board. Let me see—what costume—large white wigs, English scarlet-cloth cloaks, some of them with gold lace; hats on the table before them, or under the table beneath them. Before these illustrious personages appeared Samuel Adams, a member of the House of Representatives, and their Clerk, now at the head of the committee of the great assembly at the Old South Church."

The patriots considered this a great civic triumph, and the English Government was angry. Encomiums from lovers of liberty were copied into the Boston papers like these:

Your Bostonians shine with renewed luster.

So much wisdom and virtue as hath been conspicuous in Bostonians will not go unrewarded.

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*Samuel Dexter (b. 1726 d. 1810, was son of Rev. Samuel D., b. 1700 d. 1755, and Catherine Mears, b. 1701 d. 1797. Rev. Samuel D. was son of John D., of Malden, and Winnifred Sprague. Samuel, the Councilor, was a merchant of Boston, married to Hannah Sigourney. He spent the greater part of his life in retirement, in literary, social and charitable work, and founded the Dexter Lectureship for Biblical Criticism at Harvard. His greatest gift to the world was his son Samuel, b. 1761 d. 1816, of whom John Adams said in a letter to Vankerkemp, May 26, 1816: "I have lost the ablest friend I had on earth in Mr. Dexter."

The noble conduct of the representatives, selectmen and principal merchants of Boston in defending and supporting the rights of America and the British Constitution cannot fail to excite love and gratitude in the heart of every worthy person in the British Empire. They discover a dignity of soul worthy the human mind, which is the true glory of man, and merits the applause of all rational beings. Their names will shine unsullied in the bright records of fame to the latest ages, and unborn millions will rise up and call them blessed.

In September, 1770, when Hutchinson gave up the command of the Castle William to Col. Dalrymple by command of the King, thus expressly violating the charter, which provided that the castle and forts should be in command of the Governor, he called the Council together to inform them secretly that he was about soon to do so. He says: "They were all struck when they heard the order. Pitts said perhaps it was executed already. I made no reply." The Council made an effort to obtain an authentic copy of the King's order, in order to vindicate their charter rights, but in vain. The Council then prepared a long and able report, together with a full statement of the seizure of the castle, and other infringements on the public liberties.

This slight incident, Mr. Pitts being the only member mentioned by Gov. Hutchinson, shows that at that early day, in 1770, he was alive to the encroachments of the crown, and quick to oppose and resist them. (See Wells' Life of S. Adams, Vol. I, p. 356.)

An examination of the Massachusetts Records will show Mr. Pitts pursuing the same line of action through all the troubles of the Revolution to the time of his death in 1776, generally working in perfect harmony with Bowdoin and Dexter and Winthrop, though sometimes without them, for they were sometimes kept out of the Council by the veto of the Governor.

The mere fact of being annually elected by the House and the old Council through all those times which tried men's souls, is ample evidence of the estimation in which he was held by Boston; but there is a special indorsement of him which bears the name of one second only to Washington in the firmament of Western glory—the greatest of Bostonians—Benjamin Franklin. Gov. Hutchinson had pretended to send letters to England advocating the liberties of Americans, and had sent other letters, privately, quite opposed to them, and in favor of abridging those liberties. These letters had been obtained by Sir John Temple,* who married Gov. Bowdoin's daughter, and given to Franklin

*John Temple, born at East Boston, 1731; married Elizabeth Bowdoin, only daughter of Gov. James Bowdoin, 1767. He was an ardent patriot, and, after the war, on the death of Sir Richard Temple, inherited the Temple estates in

in a way that precluded him from acknowledging it, or from making public use of them, but to show the patriots what dangers they must know of and battle against, Franklin sent these letters to Thomas Cushing, the speaker of the House, with a letter, in the early part of 1773, a copy of which I find in John Adams, Vol. I, p. 647.

LONDON, 177–.

SIR: I embrace this opportunity to acquaint you that there is lately fallen into my hands part of a correspondence that I have reason to believe laid the foundation of most if not all our present grievances. I am not at liberty to tell through what channel I received it, but I am allowed to let it be seen by some men of worth in the province for their satisfaction. I wish I was at liberty to make the letters public, but as I am not I can allow them to be seen by yourself, by Messrs. Bowdoin & Pitts, of the Council, and Dr. Chauncy, Cooper and Winthrop, etc.

What a distinction! to be trusted and honored by Benjamin Franklin as one of the "six men of worth in the province!"

The juxtaposition of names, Bowdoin, Pitts and Winthrop, by Franklin, reminds me that President John Adams, scarcely, if at all, inferior to Franklin in the position he holds in the world's history, testified his appreciation of the Bowdoin, Winthrop and Pitts families on many occasions.

Thus he wrote his wife:

PHIL., May 27, 1776.

A Governor & Lieut. Gov. I hope will be chosen, & the Constitution a little more fixed. I hope Mr. Bowdoin will be Gov. if his health will permit, & Dr. Winthrop Lieut. Gov. These are wise, learned & prudent men. The first has a great fortune & wealthy connections. The other has the advantage of a name and family which is much reverenced, besides his personal abilities and virtues, which are very great.

On the 24th of June, 1776, he wrote to William Tudor: "I agree with you in your hopes that Massachusetts will proceed to complete her Government. Mr. Bowdoin or Dr. Winthrop, I hope, will be chosen Governor."

See also his letter to Washington, June, 1775, post, commending him especially to Bowdoin, Winthrop and Pitts among others.

To Francis Dana, he writes, June 12, 1776: "I think the Province never had so fair a representation, or so respectable a House or Board.

England, and became Eighth Baronet. He was son of Robert Temple, of Ten Hills, and Mehitable Nelson. (See New Eng. Reg., Vol. X, p. 78.) He died in New York, 1793, and was buried in Trinity Churchyard. In *Harper's Magazine*, Vol. LIII, page 874, there is a copy of his memorial tablet in Trinity Chapel. His eldest son became Sir Grenville Temple, Ninth Baronet. His oldest daughter, Elizabeth Bowdoin Temple, married Thomas Lindall Winthrop, and their youngest child is Robert C. Winthrop.

You have a great number of ingenious, able men in each." This was when Bowdoin was President of the Council, with the authority *de facto* of a Governor, and when Dr. Winthrop was in the Council, and John Pitts in the House, his father having died in January.

In 1814, when in his eightieth year, in a letter to John Taylor, while commenting playfully upon his love of his own family, he says: "I will confess to you I would not exchange my line of ancestors for that of Guelph's, or Bowdoin's, or Carter's, or Winthrop's."

The personal affection for Dr. Winthrop, by Franklin, was beautifully expressed by him in a letter to Dr. Cooper, October 27, 1799: "Our excellent Mr. Winthrop, I see, is gone. He was one of those old friends for the sake of whose society I wished to return and spend the remnant of my days in New England. A few more such deaths will make me a stranger in my own country."

THE TEA PARTY.

The next picture I shall present will be of James Pitts, the councilor, and his three sons—John, Samuel and Lendall. John had been elected in May, 1773, a Selectman, with John Hancock, John Scollay, Timothy Newell, Thomas Marshall, Samuel Austin and Oliver Wendell, all of whom were re-elected in 1774 and 1775.

The duties of a Selectman were very trying in those days. Frothingham says (Siege. 27), "the labors of the town officers at this time, were arduous and important. At a crisis when so much depended on the good order of the town, their services were required to be unusually energetic and judicious."

Samuel Pitts was an officer of the cadets, the finest military company in the country, commanded by Col. Hancock, and described by Andrews as equal in drill and appearance to any of the regular army.

Lendall Pitts, the Benjamin of the flock, the youngest of six sons, had yet his spurs to win, and so won them in one night's work, as to send his name riding down the avenues of time, with more lustrous notice than can ever follow his father's quarter of a century of patriotic service.

The famous Tea Act was passed and became a law on the 10th of May, 1773. It was a deliberate attempt to establish the right of Parliament to tax America, and give the East India Company the monopoly of the colonial market.

The determination of the Americans not to pay a tax levied by a body in which they were not represented, was as fixed as the purpose of the King to collect the duty on tea. The scheme suddenly roused more indignation than had been created by the Stamp Act. All America was in a flame. The mighty surge of passion plainly meant resistance. There was no peaceable mode of obtaining redress in such cases as we have now in our Federal courts. The only way, then, to defeat an odious scheme to collect an illegal tax, was to follow the

methods of popular demonstration, which had long been customary in England, and thus render the law inoperative.

The tea was shipped to America. The Boston patriots held great and excited public meetings in Faneuil Hall, and adopted resolutions similiar to those already passed at Philadelphia, to resist the landing of the tea.

John Pitts was a member of the committee to urge the consignees and commissioners to resign, and all the public meetings, to be legal, had to be called by him and his fellow-Selectmen. His three associates on that committee were Samuel Adams, John Hancock and Joseph Warren. Wells says this committee hunted for the younger Hutchinsons, who were consignees at Boston, and were told they had gone to Milton ; they went to Milton, and were told they had gone back to Boston ; they rode back to Boston, and learned they had gone to Milton again ; and there they went again, and obtained an unsatisfactory answer, and so reported at the great town meeting at Faneuil Hall.

For days and weeks, earnest and excited meetings were held between patriots and loyalists—between Councilors and Representatives —between army and navy officers—between commissioners and consignees, to devise some means to send back the tea without forfeiting the ships ; and by secret clubs, cadets and Sons of Liberty to guard the ships, the docks and the crews, and to see to it that the symbol of slavery should not touch Boston soil.

This continued from October to December 16, 1773, gathering in excitement every day and night, when the final grapple occurred in the Council Chamber—then in the Old South Church, and lastly at Griffin's wharf.

Leading patriots, in all parts of America, had been looking with anxiety for fear that Boston would now fail in the presence of an army and navy and a garrisoned fort. The city was filled with people from a radius of twenty miles. As R. C. Winthrop said at the Centennial at Boston, in 1873 : "It became a simple question which should go under, British tea or American liberty."

These exciting meetings and discussions had been held so long, that the very last day had arrived on which the ships could stay without forfeiture. The Governor refused a clearance, and the consignees refused to resign.

At this point, December 16, 1773, let us pause a moment to notice the peculiar combination of circumstances which entitle the Pitts fam-

ily to the gratitude of all their descendants, and all lovers of American independence.

It is remarkable that so many of the Massachusetts patriots were so fortunate as to be well repeated in their sons. Wealth, influence and power, as a rule, entail upon their children, enervated natures, social luxury and loss of noble aspirations. But there were exceptions among the Boston fathers.

John Adams, the Colossus of the Congress of 1776, lived to see his equally gifted son, John Quincy, crowned with civil, political and literary honors.

James Bowdoin lived to see his son an active member of the Massachusetts Convention of 1788, over which he himself was President, and which ratified the adoption of the Federal Constitution—fit beginning of a career which ended by endowing the college which bears his name—a name whose glory was merged, in the last generation, in that of Gov. Thomas Lindall Winthrop, and has stood like an epitome of fame in the Centennial orations at Boston, at Bunker Hill and Yorktown, in the still more renowned presence of his son, Robert C. Winthrop, the great-grandson of Gov. Bowdoin.

Samuel Dexter lived to see his son, Samuel, in the Cabinet of President John Adams, and who received the highest encomiums of Judge Story and Daniel Webster, as the giant of the New England bar—a reputation kept conspicuous to this day by Franklin Dexter, in the third and Wirt Dexter in the fourth generation, from the Councilor of 1773.

Richard Dana, dying in 1772, lived to see his son Francis give promise of the first-class patriot who became Adams' right hand man in his foreign ministry, and to hand down a name that has been honored and famous for four generations, since.

Gov. Increase Sumner was father of Gen. William H. Sumner, a member of the Massachusetts House from 1808 to 1819.

Cushing's blood and brains have helped to fill and adorn the Supreme Courts of Massachusetts and the United States.

Col. Prescott, whose magnificent statue graces the brow of Bunker Hill on the spot where his bodily but inspired presence stood on the 17th of June, 1775, was the father of a great Judge and Jurist, and the grandsire of the illustrious historian.

John Lowell, the patriot lawyer, was followed by two distinguished sons, John and Charles, and his grandson, James Russell Lowell roused the English reading world as by an electric shock in his "Present Crisis," then lulled them to summer luxury, or taught them how to

master the Fortress of Selfishness in the vision of Sir Lunfall, and to-day represents America at the Court of St. James.

And still this roll of honor could be largely extended. But it was the peculiar fortune of JAMES PITTS alone, of all those great patriots, to labor in that grandest revolution of the ages *with his own sons by his side.*

It was the tender and loving privilege of John, Samuel and Lendall Pitts to walk those paths whose failure led to the scaffold. the axe or the gallows, and whose success led to liberty, freedom and glory, with heart-beats keeping time to those of their patriot father.

When the great contest over the tea tax culminated—when the ships laden with the crucial test were in the harbor so long that they must be unladen, or forfeited, or pass into the possession of the navy and army—while Castle William, with its shotted guns, frowned upon their beloved, but doomed city—when Gov. Hutchinson met the Massachusetts Council, and begged their aid on behalf of the King and Parliament—it was then that the cause of the colonies was urged, defended and insisted upon by five men, recorded by Frothingham in his Life of Joseph Warren, page 259, as James Bowdoin, James Pitts, Samuel Dexter, Artemus Ward and John Winthrop.

James Pitts was the oldest of these five patriots, and his age and inflexible temper, his great wealth and long experience, gave his opinions and arguments a force which Gov. Hutchinson would scarcely have yielded to any other man in Boston. No one knew Mr. Pitts better than Gov. Hutchinson. They were born about the same time, one in 1711, the other in 1712, and both graduated at Harvard. While Samuel and John Adams, Joseph Warren and Robert Treat Paine had to struggle for their daily bread, Pitts was the owner and manager of a vast foreign trade in his own ships. Chosen annually for many years by the General Court as a member of the Council, his wealth, his business interests, his university and professional acquaintances added weight to his inflexible temper and natural talents. Nor was this all. The inevitable tendency of great wealth is to make men conservative and selfish, but this tendency was more than counterbalanced in his case by having such a wife as Elizabeth Bowdoin. The Huguenot blood, which would not permit her grandfather to enjoy his comfortable profession in France in slavery, mingled with the independent blood of the Puritan Portages and Lyndes of New England developed in her a character fit for the sister of the chiefest patriot in Boston's aristocracy, and the King's Council—fitter still for the wife

of an inflexible, determined patriot in the Council, in the market-place, wharves, and banks of Boston—and fittest of all for the mother of liberty-loving, liberty-working sons.

The conservatism—the age—the natural desire for ease—the present comforts which tend to procrastinate the days of trial—were all overcome by the youthful impetuosity of five grown-up boys—all Sons of Liberty, all members of the patriot clubs. Another fact, which made James Pitts so conspicuous a character, at this time—December 1773—may have been that the old Councilor was gathering wisdom and sympathy from the bereavements which, at some time, come to all. The old tomb, No. 7, in the rear of the chancel of King's Chapel, nearly opposite the present Parker House, had been opened in October, 1771, for the loving wife and mother of his children ; in 1769, ten years after the beginning of the long and weary contest for Constitutional liberty, he lost his son and partner, Thomas, at the age of twenty-six ; and in 1772, his son and namesake, James, died in the Bermudas, aged thirty. Surely, if there was a character in Boston fitted by birth, education, wealth, social connections, the heritage and reflex influence of noble sons, and by the universal sympathy of men, toward bereavement, it was James Pitts, the patriot Councilor, in December, 1773. I cannot but think that it was, in some part, his influence over his old friends, Govs. Bernard and Hutchinson, and the hospitable and friendly intercourse which he had held with Gov. Gage, which kept back those men from following out the bloody and arbitrary instructions of Lord Dartmouth and George III ; from seizing and carrying to the Tower of London ; or from beheading or hanging the leaders of the Revolution, and precipitating a conflict which would have laid Boston in ashes and her streets in blood, before any union of the colonies or concert of action could have been perfected. Time to bring together the discordant elements of the thirteen colonies, into a union which just barely accomplished victory, was all important to their success.

And now, on the 16th day of December, 1773, this remarkable scene appeared. While James Pitts, the old Councilor, backed by his younger brothers, Bowdoin, Dexter, Ward and Winthrop, was battling for his country against Gov. Hutchinson and the loyal members of the Council in their chamber over Faneuil Hall ; and while John Pitts, a Selectman, and one of the committee to cope with the consignees and commissioners, was one of the town officers presiding over the greatest mass-meeting ever yet seen at the Old South Church, the young Len-

dall was waiting, in war-paint and tomahawk, for the time when Samuel Adams solemnly pronounced, "This meeting can do nothing more to save the country." His war-whoop, with that of the other leaders of the disguised Indians, thrilled an audience whose nerves had been excited to the last tension. Hewes, one of the party, says, "Pitts, who was quite a military man, was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the forces then and there assembled." In orderly and stern array, they marched to the music of a fife to the guarded ships, while thousands of patriots, including Hancock and Samuel Pitts and the other Cadets, kept silent watch for three long hours, while the immortal band, though under the guns of an enemy, who could at any moment have blown them to atoms, were emptying into the sea the offensive object which George III and his obsequious Parliament had sent to test and prove the subjection of America to their imperial power. I shall not go into the details of the affair, for the story is graphically told by Elliot, Hewes, Bancroft, Lossing, Frothingham, Hutchinson and other historians.

It is, perhaps, worthy of mention, that the secret act of his younger brother, Lendall, was openly indorsed, and all its consequences assumed by his oldest brother, the honored patriot, John. About a week after the tea-party, when it was currently supposed that all who took part in that daring performance would be arrested if discovered, and executed for treason, the Committee of Correspondence passed the following resolution :

That the subscribers do engage to exert our utmost influence to support and vindicate each other, and any person or persons who may be likely to suffer for any noble efforts they may have made to save their country by defeating the operations of the British Parliament expressly designed to extort a revenue from the colonies against their consent.

Samuel Adams, John Pitts, Robert Pierpont, Oliver Wendell, Thomas Young, William Cooper, William Powell, William Molineaux, Benjamin Church, Joseph Greenleaf, Capt. John Bradford, Nathan Appleton, John Sweetzer, William Greenleaf, Deacon Boynton.

Boston, December 24, 1773.

Here was a pledge made among a plain, democratic committee of the people, for mutual protection at this perilous crisis against the most powerful nation in the world, whose King and Parliament they had defied in the cause of justice and humanity. (Life of S. Adams, Vol. II, p. 126.)

The effect of this act was wonderful on both sides of the Atlantic. Samuel Adams said, "You cannot imagine the height of joy that sparkles in the eyes and animates the countenances as well as the hearts of all we meet on this occasion."

John Adams said. "This is the most magnificent movement of all There is a dignity. a majesty. a sublimity. in this last effort of the patriots that I greatly admire. This destruction of the tea is so bold and it must have so important consequences and so lasting that I cannot but consider it an epoch in history." In New York. Philadelphia and Charleston the inhabitants were jubilant. Gov. Hutchinson declared "it had created a new union among the patriots."

In another place. John Adams said. "The destruction of the tea was one of those events. rare in the life of nations. which. ocurring in a peculiar state of public opinion. serve to wrest public affairs from the control of men. however wise or great. and cast them into the irresistible current of ideas."

Wells calls it "the great crowning act of the Revolution prior to the commencement of hostilities."

THE LAST PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

The Governor. Council and Representatives constituted the Government for the colony from 1634. until 1774. On the 14th of March. 1774. George the III sent a note to Lord North. in which he urged an alteration of the charter of Massachusetts. and remarked that Lord Dartmouth was very firm in its expediency.

Lord North introduced a bill "to purge the constitution of all its crudities. and give a degree of strength and spirit to the civil magistracy. and to the executive power. There was much deliberation in the Cabinet relative to the Council. Lord Mansfield urging that the nomination of the members ought to be vested in the crown.

On the 31st of March, the Boston Port Bill became a law, which was intended to. and did for some years. destroy the business of that city. On the 15th of April. a bill was introduced for vesting the nomination of the Councilors in the crown: took all executive power from the House; Judges were to be appointed by the Governor. and juries by the Sheriff: town meetings could only be called by the Gov. ernor. and could discuss topics specified by him in the call. It passed on the 6th of May to the great satisfaction of the King who assented to it on the 20th of May. and it went into effect at once. and the Provincial Council of Massachusetts ceased to have any legal existence.

A protest in the House of Lords objected that this act invested the Governor and Council with powers with which the British constitution had not trusted His Majesty and his Privy Council. and that the lives. liberties and properties of the subject were put into their hands without control.

A measure more subversive of freedom, says Earl Russell (Life of Fox, I, 63), more contrary to all constitutional principles, and more likely to excite America against imperial authority could not well be formed.

The magnificent appeals of Chatham, Shelburne, Camden, Barré and others, who contended that America was only fighting for their constitutional rights, were all lost in the frenzy of indignation which fired the English heart on account of the destruction of their tea.

The condemnation of this and the Port Bill in the colonies was indignant and universal. In Virginia, George Washington presided over a meeting of the freeholders of Fairfax County, which resolved that unless the cruel measures were counteracted, the end would be the ruin of the colonies.

Hutchinson was called to England, and Gen. Gage was appointed Governor of Massachusetts. He landed May 19, and on the motion of James Pitts, the Council, so soon to be superseded, moved an address to him of a character to remove any unfavorable impression which report might have created as to the character and disposition of the inhabitants. They received him with military salutes, and gave him a grand banquet at Faneuil Hall.

Gov. Hutchinson sailed for England June 1, and arrived July 1.

[Extracts from the journal of Thomas Hutchinson, Governor of Massachusetts.]

1st July, 1774. Received a card from Lord Dartmouth, desiring to see me at his house before one o'clock. I went soon after twelve; and, after near an hour's conversation, his lordship proposed introducing me immediately to the King.

* * * * * * * * * *

King. Nothing could be more cruel than the treatment you met with in betraying your private letters. (The King, turning to Lord Dartmouth.) My Lord, I remember nothing in them to which the least exception could be taken?

Lord Dartmouth. That appears, Sir, from the report of the Committee of Council, and from your Majesty's order thereon.

King. Could your ever find, Mr. Hutchinson, how those letters came to New England?

Hutchinson. Doctor Franklin, may it please your Majesty, has made a public declaration that he sent them, and the speaker has acknowledged to me that he received them. I do not remember that he said directly from Doctor Franklin; but it was understood between us that they came from him. I had heard before, that they came either direct from him, or that he had sent them through another channel; and, that they were to be communicated to six persons only, and then to be returned, without suffering any copies being taken. I sent for the Speaker, and let him know what I had heard, which came from one of the six to a friend, and so to me. The Speaker said they were sent to him, and that he was at first restrained from showing them to any more than six persons.

King. Did he tell you who were the persons?

Hutchinson. Yes, Sir. There was Mr. Bowdoin, Mr. Pitts, Doctor Winthrop, Doctor Chauncy, Doctor Cooper and himself. They are not all

the same which had been mentioned before. The two Mr. Adamses had been named to me in room of Mr. Pitts and Doctor Winthrop.

King. Mr. Bowdoin, I have heard of.

Lord Dartmouth. I think he is father-in-law to Mr. Temple.

King. Who is Mr. Pitts?

Hutchinson. He is one of the Council; married Mr. Bowdoin's sister.

King. I have heard of Doctor Chauncy and Dr. Cooper; but who is Dr. Winthrop?

Hutchinson. He is not a doctor of divinity, Sir, but of law; a professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at the college; and last year was chose of the Council.

King. I have heard of one Mr. Adams; but who is the other?

Hutchinson. He is a lawyer, Sir.

King. Brother to the other?

Hutchinson. No, Sir; a relation. He has been of the House, but is not now. He was elected by the two Houses to be of the Council, but negatived. The speaker further acquainted me that after the first letter, he received another allowing him to show the letters to the Committee of Correspondence, and afterward a third, which allowed him to show them to such persons as he could confide in; but always enjoined to send them back without taking copies. I asked him how he could be guilty of such a breach of trust as to suffer them to be made public. He excused it, by saying that he was against their being brought before the House; but was overruled, and, when they had been read there, the people abroad compelled their publication, or would not be satisfied without it.

While Hutchinson was on his way to England, occurred the ever-memorable meeting of the General Court at Salem, on the 7th of June. The fifteen Councilors elected under the charter were still in office, and boldly announced to the Governor on the 9th their invincible attachment to their rights and liberties, and expressed the wish that the principles and general conduct of Gage's administration might be a happy contrast to that of his two immediate predecessors. At this point, the Governor stopped the reading, and soon after sent the Council a bitter message, denouncing the address as an insult upon His Majesty and an affront to himself. On the 17th of June, with locked doors, and the key in Samuel Adams' pocket, and Secretary Flucker on the outside trying to prorogue the assembly, the House of Representatives elected five delegates to a Continental Congress at Philadelphia. James Bowdoin, the admitted leader of the Council for years, led the delegation, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Thomas Cushing and Robert Treat Paine being his associates, any three of whom should be a quorum.

It never can cease to be a matter of regret that when that famous Continental Congress of fifty-three met on the 5th of September, 1774, at Philadelphia, James Bowdoin could not have taken his place at the head of the Massachusetts delegation.

Massachusetts had been the pivot of the colonial contest for nearly fifteen years. Every principle of constitutional law, and the natural rights of man had been there discussed, and argued and settled by the

greatest intellects of the day, descendants of the liberty-loving party of England for a century. The State papers that had been there written and adopted have been declared by Chatham, Burke and Brougham in England and Daniel Webster* of our land to have been among the most masterly achievements of the human mind. No Councilor in Massachusetts, the theater of the war both of ideas and arms, had taken so active a part in the preparation and passage of those papers as Bowdoin. He not only represented the same liberal and grand ideas that emanated from the Adamses, Warrens and Otises, but he represented the property class, and himself possessed an enormous fortune.

John Q. Adams says, p. 146, "The committee of five had not been selected without great care, and the members of it closely represented the various interests of the colony. Mr. Bowdoin was of the few favored by fortune above the average, who had decidedly embraced the patriot cause."

In John Adams' letter to Timothy Pickering, p. 512, Vol. II, he says :

Cushing, two Adamses and Paine, all destitute of fortune, four poor pilgrims, proceeded in one coach, were escorted through Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey into Pennsylvania.

We were met at Frankfort by Dr. Rush, Mifflin, Bayard and several others of the Sons of Liberty in Philadelphia, who desired a conference with us. They asked leave to give us some information and advice which we thankfully granted. They represented to us that the friends of Government in Boston and the Eastern States had represented us as four desperate adventurers. "Mr. Cushing was a harmless kind of man, but poor; Mr. Samuel Adams was desperately poor ; John Adams and Paine were two young lawyers of no great talents, reputation or weight, who had no other means of raising themselves into consequence than by courting popularity."

We were all suspected of having independence in view. Now, said they, you must not utter the word "independence," in Congress or in private; if you do, you are undone. No man dares to speak of it; you must not come forward with "any bold measures; you must not pretend to take the lead." Mr. McDougall and P. V. Livingston, in New York, the week before had taken the same or stronger ground. See his diary, Ib., p. 350.

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* In his last speech in Boston, only a few weeks before his death, Webster uttered these words:

"From my earliest age the political history of Massachusetts has been a sort of beau ideal to me.

"Massachusetts struck for the liberty of a continent. It is her everlasting glory that hers was the first effort ever made by man to separate America from European dominion. That was vast and comprehensive. We look back upon it now, and well may we wonder at the great extent of mind, and genius and capacity, which influenced the men of the Revolution."

Not only were the Adamses and Paine and Cushing hampered by their own poverty and the necessities of their families, but they were warned in advance on their way through New York that they were dreaded by many as levelers and upstarts, who had nothing to lose and everything to gain by overturning affairs. If Bowdoin, the leader of the Massachusetts Council for ten years, the son of a Councilor, the brother-in-law of a wealthy Councilor, the friend and correspondent of Franklin, and the father-in-law of John Temple, heir to one of the old Baronetages of England; if this man and this influence had been added to the four intellectual giants who did go, who can tell how it would have strengthened those four! how it would have stopped the mouths of carping Tories! how it would have affected the debates and the declarations of that famous body! who can say that it would not have produced that famous Declaration of Independence, *pari passu* with the Suffolk Resolves, before the snow fell in the autumn of 1774? If that grand declaration had been adopted at once with spontaneous unanimity, closely upon the heels of the acts of Parliament, which subverted the charter rights of the colonies more than one hundred years old, would it not have stayed the commercial hand of England before she wedged herself irretrievably in a war that added £105,000,000 sterling to her debt, and cut off thousands of her bravest and best lives! It is more than probable, but even if it had not so stayed her hand, the assistance from France, which ultimately saved us, would surely have been more prompt than it was. The doubts, the hesitation, the fears, the temporizing policy which delayed that declaration for twenty months, and so prolonged and embittered the war of the Revolution, might have been otherwise if the ardent and princely genius of Bowdoin could have been there added to his four great brothers. Even in old age, he had the firmness to put down the rebellion which threatened to obliterate all the good the Revolution had accomplished in Massachusetts. But alas, sickness to which all men and women are liable, prostrated both Bowdoin and his wife, just at the period when his services were most needed. The four went without him. On the 6th of September, 1774, he writes Josiah Quincy, that he "has been journeying for two months about the province, with Mrs. Bowdoin, on account of her health, the bad state of which has prevented my attending the Congress." On the 15th of June, 1775, Mrs. John Adams writes to her husband: "Mr. Bowdoin and his lady are in the house of Mrs. Borland. He, poor gentleman, is so low, that I apprehend he is hastening to a 'house not made with hands.' He looks

like a mere skeleton, speaks faint and low, is racked with a violent cough, and I think far advanced in consumption."

Let us now go back to Boston, in June, 1774.

On the 3d of June, Lord Dartmouth had sent instructions to Gov. Gage to enforce the new acts, altering, rather abolishing the charter and the so-called Regulating Act, also commissions for thirty-six Councilors to be called Mandamus Councilors.

The official position of James Pitts was thus illegally and without pretense of right, but only by virtue of power and arms, forcibly and forever terminated.

The duties, also, of John Pitts, as Selectman of Boston, were abridged, and he and they were forbidden to call any town meeting without authority of the Governor first obtained. Frothingham, "Life of Warren," p. 335, says: "More than ever before, were eyes now fixed on the patriots of Boston, when the hitherto invincible British power commanded the submission of a free people, to a Governor and Council intrusted with powers which the British constitution had not trusted to His Majesty and Privy Council, so that lives and property were subject to absolute power. The issue concerned territory wider than Massachusetts, for it was now to be determined whether the Old World was to shape the institutions of the New World, or whether America should, as of right, frame her own laws."

Twenty-four of the Mandamus Councilors accepted. An informal meeting was held August 8, and all were notified to assemble on the 16th for the transaction of business. The Governor prepared to support their authority by military force. He had, at his command, troops from famous European battle-fields. One regiment was at Salem where he resided; one at Castle William, in Boston Harbor; one regiment at Fort Hill and four regiments on the common. Nearly thirty ships of war were in the harbor. He sent for John Pitts and the other Selectmen of Boston, and told them he should execute the law against town meetings. The Mandamus Councilors who accepted felt the storm of public indignation, and many of them resigned.

The Continental Congress at Philadelphia, on the 10th of October, resolved that all persons in Massachusetts, who consented to take office under the new acts, ought to be considered wicked tools of the despotism that was preparing to destroy the rights which God, nature and compact had given to America, and ought to be held in abhorrence by all good men.

They also resolved that, if Parliament attempt the execution of the late acts in Massachusetts by force, in such case all America ought to support the inhabitants of Massachusetts in their opposition.

John Pitts, who had been, in 1774, an active member of the famous Committee of Correspondence, increased and broadened the sphere of his labor and influence. On October 16, 1774, he writes to Mr. Samuel Adams, of Philadelphia:

> The Committee of Correspondence are firm. In your absence, there has been, as usual, the improvement of the ready pens of a Warren and Church—the criticism of a Greenleaf—the vigilance and industry of a Molineaux, and the united wisdom of those who commonly compose the meeting; but when I have been there, I have sometimes observed the want of one who never failed to animate. After referring you to Mr. Tudor, for particulars of our political affairs, I have only to express my ardent wishes for a happy determination of your Congress, after which, that we may see you again as soon as may be, for, as "iron sharpeneth iron, so does the countenance of a man his friend."

In August, 1774, he was elected one of five members from Boston to attend a County Congress, at Stoughton, Joseph Warren, William Phillips, Oliver Wendell and Benjamin Church being the others. The Regulating Act forbade town meetings, but Pitts and the other Selectmen called a meeting, August 16, 1774, for a County Congress at Stoughton.

The Congress met and adjourned to meet at Dedham, September 6, and, on the 9th of September, met again, at Milton, and unanimously adopted the famous Suffolk Resolves.

Frothingham says, in his life of Gen. Warren, p. 365: "These resolves were adopted by men who were terribly in earnest. They said that the power, but not the justice, the vengeance, but not the wisdom, of Great Britain, were acting with unrelenting severity. That it was an indispensable duty which they owed to God, their country, themselves and posterity, by all lawful ways and means in their power, to maintain, defend and preserve, those civil and religious rights and liberties, for which many of their fathers fought, bled and died, and to hand them down entire to future generations."

These resolves were carried to the Continental Congress by Paul Revere, and they elicited great applause.

On the 7th of December, 1774, the town of Boston elected John Pitts as delegate to the Second Provincial Congress, to be held at Cambridge, in February, 1775, his associates being Cushing, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Joseph Warren, Church and Oliver Wendell. That Congress met, and immediately appointed, as a Committee on

the State of the Province, Hancock, Hawley, Adams, Warren, Paine, John Pitts, Holton, Heath, Gerrish, Cushing, Ward and Gardner. Their duties were constant and arduous. The members were placed under pledge of honor not to divulge the debates, and their subjects are left to conjecture. Wells says, p. 260, Vol. II: "The body itself was the most remarkable, in some respects, that had yet convened in America. They were a body of statesmen, mostly untutored in the arts of diplomacy, but not surpassed in any civilized society in the world for intelligence and devotion to the rights of mankind. Courage, determination, sagacity, piety and all the qualities which compose true greatness in men, were there, and time has proved the consummate wisdom of all their measures."

We next see John Pitts at the Old South Meeting-House, on the 5th of March, 1775. Adams was the Moderator, and Gen. Warren delivered an oration on the Anniversary of the Boston Massacre. A Tory writer says: "On Monday, the Old South Meeting-House was crowded with nobility and fame, the Selectmen, with Adams, Church, Hancock and Cooper, and others, assembled in the pulpit, which was covered with black; the front seats were filled with British officers. A volcano was ready to burst forth, and the time for the eruption was not far distant."

On the 22d of March, the Congress met again, at Concord. The Committee on the State of the Province digested the measures of the Congress, and had them fully prepared before reporting plans of action. There is scarcely an instance where any of their decisions were recommitted.

On the 8th of April, this committee reported a resolve providing for an armed alliance of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New Hampshire, to raise and equip a general army, and to send delegates to meet those governments. One hundred and three members were present, and only seven voted against it; and, in an incredibly short period, those New England States alone formed a defensive league against the power of Britain.

Eleven days after that resolution, came the battle-peel at Lexington, where 273 British officers and men were killed or wounded, followed by the thunder-crash at Bunker Hill, on June 17, where from 1,100 to 1,500 British officers and men were sacrificed to the bull-headedness of George III, and his administration.

Between the skirmishes at Concord and Lexington and the battle of Bunker Hill on 31st of May, 1775, came the proper day for the

annual election of the House of Representatives for Massachusetts Colony, and the Third Provincial Congress met at Watertown in the meeting-house. The Committee of Safety met, and there was at the same time a convention of Congregational ministers. John Pitts was a member of the House, and they elected a board of Councilors, with James Bowdoin at the head.

From this time on, these ardent laborers for American independence were at work night and day raising troops, supplying arms and materials of war, taking care of the thousands inside of the besieged city of Boston, corresponding with the other colonies and the General Continental Congress, and their friends in Europe.

I find a letter of John Pitts (in Frothingham's Siege of Boston, p. 160) from Watertown July 20, 1775, to Samuel Adams, then at Philadelphia. He says: "I find the letters in general from you and the rest of our friends complain of not having particular information relative to the late battle of Charlestown. I do assure you the particulars any further than what I have already wrote you I have not been able to obtain from any one. To be plain, it appears to me there never was more confusion and less command. No one appeared to have any but Col. Prescott, whose bravery can never be enough acknowledged and applauded."

Gen. Washington left Philadelphia on the 21st of June, 1775, and was met by a committee of the Provincial Congress at Springfield. When he reached Watertown the whole Congress honored him with a congratulatory address, and promised to contribute all the aid in their power in the discharge of the duties of his exalted office. He replied on July 4, in which he says: "I only emulate the virtue and public spirit of the whole province of Massachusetts Bay, which, with a firmness and patriotism without example in modern history, has sacrificed all the comforts of social and political life in support of the rights of mankind and the welfare of our common country; my highest ambition is to be the happy instrument of vindicating those rights, and to see this devoted province again restored to peace, liberty and safety."

Let us pass over the eight months of labor and toil which intervened before the evacuation of Boston by the British on the 17th of March, 1776—months of deprivation, anxiety and doubt, with raw recruits badly paid, badly clothed, badly fed, with a city full of people without fuel and almost without provisions, and the necessary irritations between a hireling soldiery and an idle community, staying because they could not go away.

Slowly the great Washington encircled the garrisoned town with his offensive intrenchments, and at last the British Army, once thought invincible, crept upon their ships and sailed away, and Massachusetts was forever freed from the tread of a foreign foe in arms.

The almost worn-out Selectmen of Boston immediately waited on Washington, with the following address :

May it please your Excellency: The Selectmen of Boston in behalf of themselves and fellow-citizens, wit ı all grateful respect congratulate you on the success of your military operations in the recovery of this town from an enemy collected from the once respected Britons, who in this instance are characterized by malice and fraud, rapine and plunder in every trace left behind them.

Happy are we that this acquisition has been made with so little effusion of human blood, which, next to the Divine favor, permit us to ascribe to your Excellency's wisdom, evidenced in every part of the long besiegement.

If it be possible to enhance the noble feelings of the person who, from the most affluent enjoyments, could throw himself into the hardships of a camp to save his country, uncertain of success, 'tis then possible this victory will heighten your Excellency's happiness, when you consider you have not only saved a large, elegant and once populous city from total destruction, but relieved the few wretched inhabitants from all the horrors of a besieged town, from the insults and abuses of a disgraced and chagrined army and restored many to their quiet habitations who had fled for safety to the bosom of their country. May your Excellency live to see the just rights of America settled on a firm basis, which felicity we sincerely wish you ; and at a late period may that felicity be changed into happiness eternal !

JOHN SCOLLAY,
TIMO. NEWELL,
THOMAS MARSHALL,
SAMUEL AUSTIN,
OLIVER WENDELL,
JOHN PITTS,
Selectmen of Boston.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE WASHINGTON,
General of the United Forces of America.

On the 29th of March, a joint committee from the Council and House of Representatives of Massachusetts waited upon Washington with a long and flattering testimonial.

John Pitts then not quite thirty-eight years of age, was a member of that House, but James, the Councilor, was no longer by his side. On the 25th of January, when his beloved city was still in the hands of a vandal soldiery, his patriotic spirit passed away to a world of peace. The only notice I have found of his last sickness is in a letter from John Adams to George Washington, as the latter was about starting for Cambridge to enter upon his great career of

glory. Mr. Adams commends him to the tried and trusty souls of Massachusetts:

PHILADELPHIA, June, 1775.

"In compliance with your request, I have considered of what you propose, and am obliged to give you my sentiments very briefly, and in great haste.

In general, sir, there will be three committees which are, and will be, composed of our best men, such whose judgment and integrity may be most relied on. I mean the Committee on the State of the Province [of whom John Pitts was one], the Committee of Safety and the Committee of Supplies.

But, lest this should be too general, I beg leave to mention particularly James Warren, Joseph Hawley, John Winthrop, Dr. Warren, Col. Palmer and Elbridge Gerry. Mr. Bowdoin, Mr. Sever and Mr. Dexter, lately of the Council, will be found to be very worthy men, *as well as* MR. PITTS, *who, I am sorry to hear, is in ill health.* The recommendations of these gentlemen may be relied on." (Adams' Works, Vol. IX, p. 359.)

His death was thus announced in No. 1,081 of the Boston *Gazette and Country Journal*, February 5, 1776: "On the 25th of January last departed this life at Dunstable, in the 64th year of his age, the Honorable James Pitts, a gentleman who has greatly distinguished himself at our Council Board for inflexible virtue and warm attachment to the common rights of America, during the late corrupt and infamous administration of Barnard and Hutchinson. His death is as much regretted by the Public in the loss of a Patriot as it is felt by his children, family and acquaintance, to whom he had endeared himself by the most affectionate offices and friendly intercourse in the more private walks of life." Dying at less than sixty-four years of age, if he could have lived to the reasonable allotment of threescore years and ten, he would have seen the long and bloody war at an end, and the British Army surrendering their last foothold at Yorktown in October, 1781. Let us hope that the heart of that "warm, honest, frank Whig," as John Adams described him in February, 1771, bated no jot of heart or hope until the end. His only daughter Elizabeth, was by his side, and it is reasonable to suppose that some of his then surviving sons were with him, one of whom had already taken a place in the service of his native land, second only to the very first luminaries in that political sky. To trace the further history of John Pitts, would be to summarize the proceedings of the Massachusetts Legislature, as he was re-elected to the House in 1777–78 and was its Speaker in 1778. In 1777 he received the largest number of votes of any of the Suffolk County Representatives. He was elected Senator of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1780–81, 1783 and 1784. He then retired from public life to his estate at Tyngsboro, where he passed many years of happy satisfaction after the glorious success of the Revolution and the establishment of a free empire. He died in 1815.

As Selectman of Boston from 1773 to 1778, including the whole time of the siege, charged with the peace of the city, the removal of the citizens and guarding them from the inhumanity of the soldiers, burdened with the care of the poor and the thousand duties brought upon him by the presence of an army and navy, the stoppage of the port and the cessation of all business—as one of the famous Committee of Correspondence—and the Committee of Safety—as Delegate to the County Congress which adopted the Suffolk Resolves, as member of the Second, Third and Fourth Provincial Congresses, as member of the Committee on the State of the Province, as Speaker of the House in 1778, and as Senator four years, he acquitted himself with untiring zeal, industry and liberality, to the satisfaction and approval of a most exacting but glorious community. His uncompromising patriotism continued firm during all the scene-shifting of the Revolution.

He risked his life, his fortune and his honor for the freedom of his country, and when it was accomplished, and so gloriously acknowledged, he helped to adopt a Constitution for the State of Massachusetts which has been the model of our Western Empires. Like his friend, Samuel Adams, the Father of the Revolution—like his friend, George Washington, the Savior of his Country, he left no son to hand down his name to future generations, but wherever there beats a heart true to the instinct of sympathy with daring heroism, with so much to lose and so little to hope for from the forgetful gratitude of a world prone to accept all its blessings as of course, will the name of the Patriot John Pitts be honored—his memory cherished, and in some degree his example be emulated and followed.

GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL MEMORANDA OF THE PITTS FAMILY.

"Genealogy is the corner-stone of history. Reflecting men usually desire to know something of their own ancestors. All past events have some bearing upon what is to come. The past is parent of the future. If this be so as respects nations, it is so in reference to individuals. The peculiarities of the individual are often the result of the combined elements of the mental and physical constitution of his ancestors. No man knows himself so well but that he may learn more by scrutinizing the lives of his progenitors. The faults, the vices, the weakness, the strength, the virtues of the father of a family do not end in himself. Human legislation cannot touch that law of our race which ordains that your children's children shall be the better for your virtues, and the worse for your sins.

They who care nothing for their ancestors, are wanting in respect for themselves, and deserve to be treated with neglect by their posterity. Those who respect and venerate the memory of their forefathers, will be led, not by vanity, but by filial affection—by a pious reverence to treasure up their memories. What descendant of the Pilgrims, having no higher motive of conduct, would not feel stung with shame at the thought that the good name of his family should be disgraced by HIM? Every virtuous ancestor puts us under bonds to our posterity, and he who is duly sensible of what he owes to the past and to the future, will rarely fail to perform his duties to the present. There is no danger in lending strength to every motive that prompts to honorable actions."*

1. Berwick Pitts[1], of Lyme Regis, County Dorset, England, a small seaport on the southern coast, born about 1630.

2. John Pitts[2], son of Berwick Pitts, was born at Lyme Regis, England, 1668; emigrated to Boston about 1695; was a merchant. Married Elizabeth Lindall September 10, 1697; she was born in Duxbury July 16, 1677, and died September 10, 1763; she was a daughter of James and Susannah Lindall, of Duxbury. John Pitts died March 31, 1731. (Boston City Register.)

* Whiting—New Eng. Gen. Reg., Vol. VII p. 107.

CHILDREN OF JOHN PITTS AND ELIZABETH LINDALL.

3 John, born 1700, died 1727.

4. Elizabeth, born 1703. Married Hugh Hall, 1722.

5. Sarah, born 1705. Married William Stoddard, 1721. I have no record of the Hall and Stoddard families except as to two sons, Pitts Hall, who graduated at Harvard 1747, and John Stoddard.

6. Thomas Pitts[3], born 1707, Boston; graduated at Harvard, 1726, studied law, and died same year.

8. James Pitts[3], born at Boston, 1710; graduated at Harvard 1731. Married October 26, 1732, to Elizabeth Bowdoin, daughter of James Bowdoin and Hannah Portage Bowdoin. Died September 8, 1747.

James Pitts[3] was an active and leading patriot, a member of the Council from 1766 till his death. He died January 25, 1776, and was buried in his own tomb in King's Chapel burying-ground. The tomb is No. 7, and stands in the rear of the chancel. (See Bridgman's Memorials of the Dead in King's Chapel Burying-Ground, for account of the family arms and tomb, and partial genealogy, p. 274, No. 1,081 of Boston *Gazette and Country Journal* for his obituary.)

Mrs. Pitts was born in Boston April 25, 1717, and died October 20, 1771. (See obituary notice in appendix, p. 52.)

CHILDREN OF JAMES PITTS AND ELIZABETH BOWDOIN.

9. Elizabeth Pitts[4], born 1734, married February 17, 1781, to Col. Jonathan Warner, of Portsmouth, N. H., son of Hon. Daniel and Sarah Hill Warner, born September 6, 1726, and died May 14, 1814. (See Wentworth's Gen. Vol. III, p. 316.) Her portrait, painted by Copley, is now owned by Thomas Pitts, of Detroit. She died October 22, 1810. She left the whole of her large estate to her husband, Col. Warner. When he died, he left half of it to his niece, Mrs. Elizabeth Sherburne, and half to the daughter of Lendall Pitts, Mrs. Gérard Cazeaux.

10. John Pitts[4], born 1737, died 1815. Married Elizabeth Tyng. (See memorial *ante*.)

11. James Pitts Jr.,[4] born 1741, died July 11, 1772, at New Providence, Bahama; a bachelor. His will, executed 10th January, 1772, makes his brothers John and William his executors; probated November 27, 1772, Foster Hutchinson, Judge.

12. Thomas Pitts[4], born 1743, died May 17, 1769, at Boston; a bachelor.

13. William Pitts[4], born 1744, died October 22, 1780, at Boston; a bachelor.

14. Samuel Pitts[4], born 1745, died March 6, 1805; married Johanna Davis, of Boston, 1776. (See post 37.)

15. Lendall Pitts[4], born 1747, died December 31, 1784; married Elizabeth Fitch. (See post 47.)

11. John Pitts[4] left no son and but one child.

16. Elizabeth Pitts[5], born July 28, 1780, died May 7, 1857. Married September 22, 1801, Robert Brinley, whose obituary is in Vol. XXI, New England Gen. Reg., p. 286. (See Appendix.)

CHILDREN OF ROBERT AND ELIZABETH BRINLEY.

17. Nathaniel Brinley[6], born June 20, 1809, died June 13, 1880. Married Elizabeth Bridge, October 10, 1839.

18. Robert Brinley[6], born October 22, 1816, died March 20, 1847.

Catherine Craddock B., born July 8, 1806, died February 6, 1826.

CHILDREN OF NATHANIEL BRINLEY AND SARAH ELIZABETH BRIDGE.

19. William Bridge Brinley, born February 3, 1842. Married Grace Butterfield, of Tyngsboro, August 1, 1868. Has original portraits of James and Elizabeth Bowdoin Pitts, painted by Blackburn in 1757; also, a portrait of Susannah Jacobs.

20. Nathaniel Brinley[7], born April 14, 1844, died at Andersonville September 13, 1864. (See obituary post.)

21. Mary Elizabeth Brinley, married Rev. Angus Ross Kennedy, born July 26, 1846.

14. Samuel Pitts[4], born in 1745, died March 6, 1805. Married in 1776, Johanna, daughter of William Davis, of Boston. He was a merchant in Boston, and, in partnership with his father, James, and several of his brothers, owned and fitted and sent out merchantmen to the Bermudas. In 1774, he was on the Public School Committee and on the committee to carry the resolutions of the Continental Congress into execution.

He was a Son of Liberty and one of the tea-party, though he, like the rest of the party, concealed the fact, it being especially necessary for the Pitts family to do so, as their father and Uncle Bowdoin were members of the King's Council, and their brother John a Selectman and member of the House. (See Memorial *ante*.) During the siege he was of great help to his brother John. Bridg-

man says he was a zealous patriot. After the Revolution, he retired to Chelmsford near the residence of Judge Tyng, whose daughter was the wife of John Pitts. He lived in luxury, devoted to domestic comfort and a noble hospitality, and died there in 1805, having all his life declined public office, which the influence of his father and Gov. Bowdoin naturally tendered him. His will, dated July 9, 1804, proved July 2, 1805, makes his brother John sole executor. His portrait was painted by Copley at twenty-five, and a perfect copy of it is in the Pitts mansion at Detroit. On the death of his wife Johanna, Samuel Pitts[10] married Mary Davis, her sister, who was the widow of Louis Carver. She survived Mr. Pitts and married for her third husband Judge Bachelder, of Fryeburg, Me. She survived him, also, and died at the house of her nephew and step-son, John Pitts, at Belgrade, Me. She received a silver snuff box from Commodore Steele, of the English Navy, now owned by Mrs. Daniel Goodwin, of Chicago.

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND JOHANNA DAVIS PITTS.

22. Capt. James Pitts, born in Boston, November 23, 1777, educated for the navy, owned and sailed merchant vessels to the Bermudas. Married Rachel Hildreth. Died December 19, 1843, at Chelmsford. No children.

23. Thomas[5], born at Boston September 5, 1779, died at Cambridge September 5, 1836. Married Elizabeth Mountfort, November, 1802.

24. John[5], died November 10, 1834, unmarried, aged fifty-two years; lived in Belgrade, Maine.

25. William[5], died about 1820, in East Florida, leaving three sons, Richard, William, and Samuel, who died in New Orleans, about 1820, leaving no children.

26. Samuel[5].

27. Sarah Chardon Pitts[5]. Married Noah Davis, of Roxbury, 1815; died 1854. Had a son and daughter who died childless.

28. Mary Pitts[5] married William Stoddard Bridge, November 23, 1811, by Rev. Mr. Sawyer, of Cape Elizabeth, at Ft. Preble.

23. Thomas[5], born 1779, died 1836; commenced life as a merchant, in Augusta, Maine, but entered the army; was commissioned as Major of the Fourth United States Artillery; he served until the end of the war of 1812 with England, being in the battle of the French Mills in Canada, and passed down the River St. Lawrence, under the fire of the

enemy to Chatanago, under command of Gens. Hampton and Boyd. He was in the battle at Schuyler's Field. During the battle, Lieut. Henry Alexander Hobart, a grandson of Gen. Dearborn, had his head shot off by a cannon ball. Hobart was one of the witnesses at the wedding of Mary Pitts—sister of Thomas—at Fort Preble, in 1811. After the war Maj. Thomas Pitts was in the State Bank, at Augusta, Maine, for many years ; he spent the last years of his life at Cambridge, and was Inspector of Customs at Boston. He married, in November, 1802, Elizabeth Mountfort, of Boston, who died August 14, 1843, daughter of Dr. Jonathan Mountfort and Mary Bole ; son of Jonathan M. and Sarah Bridge ; son of Edmond Mountfort, who was the son of the Edmond Mountfort who died in Boston in 1695. The original deed from Joseph Bastar to Edmond Mountfort of his homestead, also his will, are owned by Mrs. Daniel Goodwin.

Mary Bole Mountfort had a romantic experience. She was a native of Newfoundland. Her father sent her by Capt. Shepherd, of Medford, Mass.,(a brother-in-law of Judge Lee, of Cambridge), to Halifax to attend a school there. Capt. Shepherd found Halifax blockaded, and went to Boston and left Mary Bole at his own house. He and his wife were childless and became attached to her, and, with consent of her parents, adopted her. She became engaged to Dr. Mountfort, and before marriage went to visit her parents at Waterford, Ireland, to which place they had removed. On her return, laden with wedding presents, the ship was wrecked on a ledge of rocks in Boston Harbor. She was saved by the mate, John Wythe, who swam ashore to the lighthouse. Every other person on board was lost. Dr. Mountfort was sent for and claimed his bride, and they were married. Capt. Shepherd gave her a house and lot in Boston. It is said she was very beautiful ; had seven children by Dr. Mountfort ; survived him, and married Gen. Ebenezer Bridge, of Chelmsford.

Mrs. Goodwin has also a quarto Bible, printed in 1679, 1707–8, containing the Mountfort record since 1742. The Mountforts claim descent from Simon de Mountfort (1633), whose pedigree goes back to Turstan de Montfort (1030). (See Dugdale's History of Warwickshire, in library at Harvard University, and Drake's Boston, page 522). It is said the Edmond who arrived in Boston in the ship Providence (1656), was a son of Simon de Montfort. Maj. Pitts was in command of Fort Preble, Portland Harbor, in 1810, and his oldest son, Samuel M.[25], was born there.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND ELIZABETH MOUNTFORT PITTS.

29. Mary Ann Pitts[6], born November 25, 1804 ; married, January 6, 1825, Ezra Warren.

30. Elizabeth Bowdoin Pitts[6], born October 13, 1806 ; died November 10, 1855, unmarried.

31. Samuel Mountfort Pitts[6], born April 17, 1810, at Fort Preble ; died April 26, 1868, at Detroit ; married Sarah Merrill, June 24, 1836.

32. Emeline Bowdoin[6], born March 28, 1813 ; married, September 4, 1832, Dr. Benjamin Sanborn.

33. Frances[6], born September 30, 1815 ; married (1836) Charles Merrill, and died April 2, 1871. He was born January 13, 1792, and died December 8, 1872.

34. George[6], born April 30, 1817 ; unmarried.

35. Sarah Mountfort[6], born July 22, 1820 ; married (1846) Charles D. Farlin. No issue.

29. Mary Ann Pitts[6], born 1804 ; married Ezra Warren, of Chelmsford, a relative of Dr. Warren, of Boston.

CHILDREN OF MARY ANN PITTS.

36. Henry Warren[7], born May 28, 1826 ; died 1868. He was educated at Worcester Medical College, and married Anna Wing, of Acushnet, Mass.

37. Samuel Pitts Warren[7], born December 27, 1827 ; died 1862, unmarried.

Harriet Osborne Warren is a daughter of Henry and Anna Warren, born in 1862.

After the death of Ezra Warren, his widow married, October 28, 1842, Jonathan Wheelock, of Welsh extraction, and a kinsman of President Wheelock, of Dartmouth College.

31. Samuel Mountfort Pitts[6], b. 1810 ; d. 1868. Married at Cambridge, 1836, Sarah Merrill, born at Vassalboro, Me., daughter of Joshua Merrill, b. May 7, 1780 ; d. Nov. 17, 1860 ; and Elizabeth Bradford, b. April 26, 1785 ; d. January 19, 1856. Julia Merrill, twin sister of Sarah, married, in 1845, Daniel Goodwin, then Judge of the Supreme Court of Mich. Joshua M., was son of Gen. James Merrill, of Portland, Me., and Hannah Merrill. Gen. James M. was son of Joshua Merrill and Mary Winslow, daughter of James Winslow, said to be a descendant of Gov. Edward Winslow of the Mayflower.

Elizabeth Bradford was daughter of Peter Bradford, b. 1745, d. 1833, son of Hon. Gamaliel Bradford, b. 1704, d. 1778, one of the King's Council, with James Pitts and James Bowdoin, from 1766 to 1770, and Judge of the County Court. He was son of Samuel Bradford, b. 1668, d. 1714, son of Maj. William Bradford, b. 1624, d. 1704, who was son of Gov. William Bradford of the Mayflower. (See New Eng. Gen. Reg., Vol. IV, pp. 39 and 239.)

Gamaliel's mother, Hannah Rogers, was daughter of John Rogers and Elizabeth Peabody. Elizabeth was dau. of William Peabody, b. 1619, d. 1707, and Elizabeth Alden, b. 1624, d. 1717, and she was dau. of John Alden, b. 1597, d. 1687, and Priscilla Mullins, both of the Mayflower, and who were the first man and woman who stepped on Plymouth Rock, as has been popularly supposed, December 21, 1620, but as argued in *Atlantic Monthly* for November, 1881, on the 4th of January, 1621.

Samuel M. Pitts graduated at Harvard in 1830, being a class-mate and friend of Charles Sumner, Thomas C. Amory, John B. Kerr, E. R. Potter, Franklin Sawyer, Jonathan F. Stearns, George W. Warren and Samuel T. Worcester. Among other college mates were his kinsman, Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, also George S. Hilliard, C. C. Emerson, George T. Bigelow, James Freeman Clarke, Benjamin R. Curtis, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Benjamin Pierce, the historian Motley, George T. Curtis and George E. Ellis.

He studied law in Detroit, Mich., with Gen. Charles Larned, and became executor of his estate upon the death of Larned, and succeeded to his law business ; devoted himself to his profession and editing a newspaper for twelve years, and was compelled, by loss of health, to abandon his profession. He then engaged in the manufacture of lumber and salt and in the purchase of pine lands, and accumulated a large fortune. He died in 1868, and before his death admitted his only son, Thomas, and the husband of his oldest daughter, Julia, Mr. Thomas Cranage, Jr., into partnership, under the firm name of Pitts & Cranage. He was a devoted Presbyterian, and extremely liberal and helpful to his church and its varied societies, and to the poor and sick of all races and colors. He was a thoroughly educated man, of fine presence and handsome face, with a musical voice ; always spoke and wrote with great elegance and precision ; conversed fluently in English, French and German, and quoted freely from the Latin. When in health he was celebrated for his good stories and apt illustrations. At the time of his death there were four very full eulogistic

notices of him, one by the Rev. Dr. George Duffield, published in the New York *Independent*, May 14, 1868, and one by Judge Daniel Goodwin, President of the Constitutional Convention of Michigan of 1850, published by the Detroit *Free Press*.

Dr. Duffield said, "He was an enlightened, consistent, faithful follower of Christ, an useful, public-spirited and benevolent dispenser of his means for the benefit of the suffering poor and the cause of evangelical piety. He loved to minister to the wants of the needy, who came in his way, but averse to anything like display or show of charity, he let not his left hand know what his right hand did. Prominent among those who bore his remains to their last resting-place, were members and cotemporaries of the bar, with which profession his tastes, liberal culture and social intercourse, kept him identified to the time of his death."

Judge Goodwin said of him, "He possessed an intelligent mind, and was a good scholar. He was a man of high integrity and of exemplary character; was liberal in support of objects of public utility, and kind and generous to the poor, many of whom will, with grateful recollections shed tears over his memory."

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL MOUNTFORT PITTS AND SARAH MERRILL:

38. Julia Larned Pitts[7], b. July 29, 1837; m. October 20, 1863, Thomas Cranage, Jr., then of Detroit, now of Bay City.

39. Elizabeth[7], b. May 26, 1839; d. May 6, 1842.

40. Thomas Pitts[7], b. October 11, 1841; m. June 21, 1871, Louise Chapin Strong, of Detroit.

41. Frances Pitts[7], b. October 9, 1843; m. December 29, 1863, Henry Martyn Duffield, of Detroit.

42. Caroline Pitts[7], b. October 9, 1843; m. July 13, 1864, Henry Billings Brown, who went from Connecticut to Detroit in 1860, graduated at Yale College 1856, studied law at Harvard University in the class of 1860; was Judge of the Circuit Court of Wayne County in 1870, and appointed Judge of the Eastern District of Michigan, by President Grant in 1875.

43. Isabella Duffield Pitts[7], b. August 9, 1845; m. July 7, 1875, Daniel Goodwin, Jr., lawyer of Chicago.

38. Julia Larned Pitts[7], and Thomas Cranage, Jr., settled in Bay City, Michigan.

CHILDREN OF JULIA AND THOMAS CRANAGE.

44. Sarah Cranage[8], b. September 2, 1864 ; d. April 29, 1875.

45. Samuel Pitts Cranage[8], b. September 25, 1865.

46. Mary Cranage, b. July 25, 1867.

40. Thomas Pitts, of Detroit, Michigan, was educated at Andover, Massachusetts ; entered into business with his father, Samuel M., in 1867 ; married Louise Chapin Strong in 1871. He and James Lendall P., of Grand Rapids, Mich., are the only male descendants bearing the name in the seventh generation from John P., the first settler.

CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND LOUISE PITTS.

47. Helen Strong Pitts[8], b. April 30, 1872.

48. Caroline Brown Pitts[8], b. December 15, 1873 ; d. October 8, 1874.

49. Samuel Lendall Pitts[8], b. November 20, 1875 ; only male bearing the Pitts name in eighth generation.

41. Frances Pitts, m. Henry Martyn Duffield, December 29, 1863 ; youngest child of Rev. Dr. George Duffield, an eminent Presbyterian, at Carlisle, Philadelphia and Detroit ; b. July 4, 1794 ; d. June 26, 1868 ; grandson of another Rev. Dr. George Duffield, Chaplain of the Continental Congress.

George Duffield, the patriot preacher and Chaplain of Congress at Philadelphia, was born October 7, 1732. Graduated at Princeton College in 1752. Married a sister of Gen. John Armstrong,* of Carlisle, and in 1759 was settled over a congregation at Carlisle, Penn. This place was then so surrounded with Indians that the congregation had to go armed, and keep sentinels out to guard them from surprises. Dr. Duffield always shared the expeditions against the redskins. He became Pastor of the Third Presbyterian Church at Philadelphia in 1772. In the war upon the colonies by England, he took sides at once and fearlessly for the freedom of his country, and preached resistance as a duty.

John Adams usually attended his church, and the following letters were written by him to his wife, who was at home in Massachusetts :

PHILADELPHIA, 11 June, 1775.

I have been this morning to hear Mr. Duffield, a preacher in this city, whose principles, prayers and sermons more nearly resemble those of our New

* Gen. Armstrong died March 9, 1795, aged seventy-five; was a Major General of the Continental Army under Washington, and a Member of Congress in 1778-80, 1787-88. His son, Gen. John, Jr., was Secretary of War under Madison; married a daughter of Chancellor Livingston, and was father of Mrs. William B. Astor.

England clergy than any that I have heard. His discourse was a kind of exposition of the 35th chapter of Isaiah. America was the wilderness and the solitary place, and he said it would be glad, "rejoice and blossom as the rose." He labored to strengthen the weak hands and confirm the feeble knees. He said to them that were of a fearful heart, "be strong, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense; He will come and save you." "No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, but the redeemed shall walk there," etc. He applied the whole prophecy to this country, and gave us as animating an entertainment as I ever heard. He filled and swelled the bosom of every hearer. The clergy this way are beginning to engage in politics, and they engage with a fervor that will produce wonderful effects.

PHILADELPHIA, 7 July, 1775.

It is not surprising to me that the wanton, cruel and infamous conflagration of Charlestown, the place of your father's nativity, should afflict him. Every year brings us fresh evidence that we have nothing to hope from our loving mother country but cruelties more abominable than those which are practiced by the savage Indians. Your description of the distress of the worthy inhabitants of Boston and the other seaport towns, is enough to melt a heart of stone. Our consolation must be this, that cities may be rebuilt, and a people reduced to poverty may acquire fresh property. But a constitution of government once changed from freedom can never be restored. Liberty once lost is lost forever. When the people once surrender their share in the Legislature and their right of defending the limitations upon the Government, of resisting every encroachment upon them, they can never regain it.

I feel much obliged to Mr. Bowdoin and Mr. Wibird for their civilities to you. My compliments to them. Does Mr. Wibird preach against oppression and the other cardinal vices of the times? Tell him the clergy here, of every denomination, not excepting the Episcopalian, thunder and lighten every Sabbath. They pray for Boston and the Massachusetts. They thank God, most explicitly and fervently, for our remarkable successes. They pray for the American Army. They seem to feel as if they were among you.

30th July, 1775.

This day I heard my parish priest (Mr. Duffield), from 2 Chronicles, xv, 1–2. This gentleman never fails to adapt his discourse to the times. He pressed upon his audience the necessity of piety and virtue in the present times of adversity, and held up to their view the army before Boston as an example. He understood, he said, that the voice of the swearer was scarcely heard; that the Sabbath was well observed, and all immoralities discontinued. No doubt there were vicious individuals, but the general character was good. I hope this good man's information is true, and that this will become more and more the true character of that camp. You may well suppose that this language was exceedingly pleasing to me.

PHILADELPHIA, 11 February, 1776.

Here I am again. Arrived last Thursday, in good health. I can form no judgment of the state of public opinion and principles here as yet, nor any

conjectures of what an hour may bring forth. Have been to meeting and heard Mr. Duffield, from Jeremiah, ii, 17. He prayed very earnestly for Boston and New York.

17 May, 1776.

I have this morning heard Mr. Duffield upon the signs of the times. He ran a parallel between the case of Israel and that of America, and between the conduct of Pharaoh and that of Geo. 3d. Jealousy that the Israelites would throw off the government of Egypt made him issue his edict that the children should be cast into the river, and the other edict that the men should make a large revenue of bricks without straw. He concluded that the course of events indicated strongly the design of Providence that we should be separated from Great Britain, etc.

Philadelphia, 24 August, 1777.

The army marched through the town between 9 & 10 o'c. Four Regiments of light horse, Bland's, Baylor's, Sheldon's & Moylan's—four grand divisions of the army. They marched twelve deep, & yet took up two hours in passing by. General Washington and the other general officers with their aids, on horseback. The Colonels and other field officers on horseback. We have now an army well appointed between us & Howe, so that I feel as secure here as if I was at Braintree, but not so happy. My happiness is nowhere to be found but there.

After viewing this fine spectacle & firm defense, I went to Mr. Duffield's meeting to hear him pray, as he did most fervently, & I believe he was most sincerely joined by all present for its success.

Yorktown, 25 October, 1777.

Congress has appointed two chaplains, Mr. White and Mr. Duffield, the former of whom, an Episcopalian, is arrived, & opens Congress with prayers every day. The latter is expected every hour.

So great was Dr. Duffield's zeal in the cause of the colonies, and so wide was his influence known to be, that his services in the army were sought for, and on the 1st of July, 1776, he was commissioned as Chaplain to the Pennsylvania militia. He was well known in camp, and his visits were always welcome. When the enemy were at Staten Island, and the American Army was across the river on the Jersey shore, he repaired to camp to spend the Sabbath. He commenced religious services in an orchard, and when his troops began to sing, the British heard them, and began firing on them with cannon. They changed their position, and held their services out. When the army, reduced to a small number, fled through New Jersey, and the cause seemed hopeless, he stayed with them through all their hardships, and encouraged them all in his power.

It is said that in a skirmish near Trenton, a brother chaplain, John Rossburgh, was taken prisoner, and immediately killed without quarter. His body was found by Mr. Duffield, who had it removed and

buried. Such was the fate he was in constant danger from if he should be captured, for the British dreaded our preachers, and paid little attention to the rights of our people or the wishes of prisoners. Mr. Duffield came very near being captured when Washington abandoned Princeton and Trenton. A price was set on his head and he was excluded from the amnesty offered to the Patriots by the British General. His zeal for his country never abated, nor his patriotic efforts ceased. He lived to see his country at peace, and again took his old church at Philadelphia, and preached there till he died in 1790. The last letter from John Adams was written from Yorktown, where Cornwallis and the British Army surrendered to Washington, October 19, 1781, the 100th anniversary of which was attended by his great grandson, Col. Henry M. Duffield, as staff officer of Gov. Jerome. Robert C. Winthrop was the orator of the day.

I cannot close this sketch more satisfactorily to myself than by citing one more letter of that grand character, John Adams, to his wife :

15th April, 1776.

Tell my children that I studied & labored to procure a free constitution of government for them to solace themselves under, & if they do not prefer this to ample fortune, to ease and elegance, they are not my children. Take care that they don't go astray ; cultivate their minds ; inspire their little hearts ; raise their wishes. Fix their attention upon great & glorious objects. Root out every little thing. Weed out every meanness. Make them great & manly. Teach them to scorn injustice, ingratitude, cowardice and falsehood. Let them revere nothing but religion, morality & liberty.

Henry's mother, Isabella Bethune, b. October 22, 1799 ; d. November 3, 1871, was the dau. of Divie Bethune, of New York, who married July, 1795, Joanna Graham, dau. of Dr. Graham, of Scotland, and the celebrated Isabella Graham, founder of many public charities in that city. Divie Bethune was a cousin of the father of the Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone. Henry M. graduated at Williams College, 1861 ; served through the war from 1861 to 1865, and was a member of the staff of Gen. George H. Thomas ; since the war, practiced law in Detroit, and in 1882, is Counselor for that city.

CHILDREN OF HENRY M. AND FRANCES PITTS DUFFIELD.

50. Henry Martyn Duffield, Jr.[8], b. August 9, 1865.
51. Samuel Pitts D., b. January 22, 1869.
52. Divie Bethune D., b. March 3, 1870.
53. William Beach D., b. March 29, 1871 ; d. July 10, 1876.
54. Francis D., b. October 23, 1873.

55. Morse Stewart D., b. September 29, 1875.

56. Graham D., b. November 21, 1876.

32. Emeline Bowdoin Pitts[6], married September 4, 1832, Dr. Benjamin Sanborn; b. August 24, 1800; d. February 28, 1846, oldest son of Dr. William Sanborn, b. in Kingston, N. H., and died in Falmouth, Me., 1847; age, seventy-nine.

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN AND EMELINE BOWDIN SANBORN.

58. John Pitts Sanborn[7], b. Belgrade, Me., July 13, 1833; m. October 17, 1855, Mary Ann Wastell, daughter of Rev. W. P. Wastell, of London, England. Collector of United States Customs at Port Huron, Mich., for nearly twenty years last past.

59. William S., b. November 2, 1834; m. August 17, 1858, Nancy Eliza Howard; d. June 24, 1876, at San Diego, Cal. Served in the war from 1861 to 1865 with distinction, and was wounded and never recovered. Was Major of the Twenty-second Infantry Michigan Volunteers, and, on the death of Col. Wisner, was promoted and commanded the regiment at the battle of Chickamauga, September 10, 1863, and was brevetted Brigadier General for gallant conduct on the field, where he was wounded.

60. Peter Bowdoin S., b. March 12, 1838; m. in 1865, Mary Salome Willegar; served most creditably in the war in 1861–62 in Berdan's Sharpshooters.

61. James Merrill S., b. August 13, 1840; m. September 29, 1868, Lillia Whiting.

62. Nancie Merrill S.

CHILDREN OF JOHN PITTS SANBORN.

64. Mary Eliza Sanborn[8], b. March 24, 1869.

65. Frank Pitts Sanborn[8], b. October 19, 1879.

CHILD OF GEN. WILLIAM SANBORN.

66. Kate Eliza, b. April 24, 1865.

CHILDREN OF PETER BOWDOIN SANBORN.

67. Alvah Sanborn, b. July 2, 1865.

68. Clare Sanborn, b. February 9, 1873.

CHILDREN OF JAMES MERRILL SANBORN.

69. George Whiting Sanborn[8].

70. Charles Henry Sanborn.

71. Hugh Read Sanborn.

33. Frances Pitts[6], m. Charles Merrill in 1836; he b. January 3, 1792; d. December 28, 1872; son of Gen. James Merrill, of Portland, and brother of Joshua Merrill, father of Mrs. Samuel Pitts[6] and Mrs. Judge Goodwin. Charles lived about thirty years in Detroit, and was a man of great wealth and influence. They left but one child.

63. Elizabeth Pitts Merrill, b. October 8, 1837, at Portland; m. October 16, 1855, Thomas W. Palmer, of Detroit, a man of liberal culture and large wealth, and Senator in the Michigan Legislature from 1878 to 1880.

15. Lendall Pitts[4], b. 1747, d. December 31, 1787; married Elizabeth Fitch, dau. of Timothy Fitch, of Medford; she died June, 1786. Lendall was a Son of Liberty and an ardent Patriot; was leader of the famous tea party, December 16, 1773. (See Elliott's Hist. Mass.; Hewes' account of the tea party; Drake's Old Land Marks of Boston, p. 281; Lossings' Field Book of the Revolution, Vol. I, p. 498.)

CHILDREN OF LENDALL PITTS AND ELIZABETH PITTS.

72. William Pitts[5], b. Boston, August 22, 1779, d. 1846.

73. Elizabeth Warner P.[5], b. December 25, 1783, m., 1815, Gerard Cazeaux, d. July, 1851.

74. Margaret Gordon P.[5], b. 1784, d. August 17, 1823, unmarried.

72. William Pitts[6], b. 1779, m. December 15, 1810, Emily Shattuck, 3d dau. of Moses and Hannah Shattuck, of Suffield, Conn., b. April 19, 1795, she died December 15, 1831, æt. 36 yrs.

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM PITTS AND EMILY SHATTUCK.

75. Emily Elizabeth Pitts[6], b. Charlestown, March 17, 1812, d. 1835,

76. Mary B. P.[6], b. Boston, March 17, 1817, living in Brookline, 1881, unmarried.

77. James Lendall Pitts[6], b. Charlestown, December 17, 1822, m. May 15, 1845, Louisa M. Griffiths.

73. Elizabeth Warner Pitts, b. 1785, d. 1851, m. Gerard Cazeaux, French Consul at Portsmouth, N. H., and afterward at New York City. He died in France, 1830. She was adopted by her aunt, Elizabeth Pitts Warner, No. 9 ante, who had no children. She inherited from Colonel and Mrs. Warner one half of their estate, and, among other things, the Copley and Smybert portraits, now owned by Thomas Pitts, of Detroit. Col. Warner's will—April 27, 1808—leaves "one moiety of

all my real, personal and mixed estate to my dear niece, Elizabeth Warner Pitts, oldest daughter of my late brother-in-law, Lendall Pitts, of Boston." Mr. Cazeaux says, touching the family portraits of Mrs. Warner, by Copley, and Mrs. James Pitts, by Smybert: "The late William Hunt, who saw them repeatedly, pronounced them fine examples of the work of the men who painted them. He attached a historical value to them, as exemplifying the history of art in America. His sister, Miss Jane Hunt, no common artist herself, admired them. Thomas Robinson considers the portrait of Madam Pitts as good a Smybert as he ever saw."

CHILDREN OF GERARD CAZEAUX AND ELIZABETH W. PITTS.

78. Pierre Ribero Cazeaux[7], b. May, 1818, d. November, 1877, unmarried.

79. Lendall Pitts Cazeaux[7], b. April, 1822, graduated at Harvard, 1842, living in Brookline, Mass., in 1881, unmarried. Has original minature portraits of Lendall Pitts, leader of tea party, and his wife.

77. James Lendall Pitts[7], third son of William and Emily, b. 1822, married May 15, 1845, Louisa M. Griffiths.

CHILDREN OF JAMES LENDALL PITTS.

80. Fannie Louisa, b. Detroit, December 9, 1856.

81. James Lendall, b. Grand Rapids, September 6, 1864.

APPENDIX.

WILL OF EDMOND MOUNTFORT.

Boston, August 8, 1690.—In the name of God, Amen. I, Edmond Mountfort, Sr., being very sicke and weake in body, but of perfect sence and memory, and not knowing what God hath appointed concerning me, do make this my last will and testament.

First, I bequeath my soul to the mercy of God in Jesus Christ, and my body to be decently buried, and, after my debts and funerall charges are paid, I give and bequeath unto my loving wife my whole estate, both real and personall, to possess and enjoy during her natural life, my housing and all the land belonging to them, I purchased with my money. And my will is, they shall be as chattels, or as any other part of my movable estate. Also, I give unto my beloved wife full and ample power to sell my house in the land commonly called the black horse land. And my will is that, after the decease of my dear and loving wife, my whole estate, after due apprizment, be equally divided amongst my children, both sons and daughters to have like portion, only if my eldest son, Edmond, shall survive his mother, he shall have a double portion. Also, I do make and appoint my beloved wife my sole executrix, and my brothers, Henry and Benjamin Mountfort, to be the overseers, of this my will. Also, I give to my overseers five pounds to each of them.

Edmond Mountfort, Sr. [Seal.]

Witness: John Atwood,
William Robie,
Henry Mountfort.

Boston, April 2d, 1695.—Mrs. Elizabeth Mountfort, the exrx within nominated, presented this will for probate, and John Atwood and William Robie, two of the subscribing witnesses, made oath in County Court that they were present and did see Edmond Mountfort signe and seale, and heard him publish this instrument to be his last will and testament, and that, when he so did, he was of a disposing mind to their understanding.

Attest: Joseph Webb, *Cler.*

WILL OF SUSANNAH JACOBS—1727.

Letters of administration on Susannah Jacobs' Estate were issued March 6, 1733, by Josiah Willard, Judge of Probate for the County of Suffolk and Province of Massachusetts Bay, to James Pitts, of Boston. Her will was as follows :

In the name of God, Amen ! This 5th of September, A. D. 1727, I, Susannah Jacobs, of Boston, do make and ordain this to be my last will and testa-

ment.* After my debts and funeral expenses are paid, I give and bequeath the remainder of my estate in the following manner and form, viz.: I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Pitts, wife of Mr. John Pitts, of Boston, £500; I give and bequeath to my grandson, James Pitts, son of Mr. John Pitts, my brick house, wherein I now dwell, and the ground it stands on; I give and bequeath to my grand-daughter Elizabeth Hall, wife to Mr. Hugh Hall, of Boston, the house that Mrs. Loyd dwells in, being the next adjoining to my aforesaid brick house, with the land which it stands on. I also give to my said grand-daughter the sum of £800; I give and bequeath to my grand-daughter Sarah Stoddard, wife to Mr. Wm. Stoddard, of Boston, the house that Mrs. Durrall and Dr. Pemberton live in, adjoining to the aforesaid Mrs. Loyd's house, and the ground on which it stands, and also give her the sum of £800.

She then provides for a life annuity to her kinswomen Mary and Hannah Ross, and legacies to the Rev. Messrs. Benjamin Coleman and Wm. Cooper. All the rest of my estate, both real and personal, I give and bequeath to my aforenamed grandson, James Pitts, and to his heirs, etc. Constitutes her son-in-law John Pitts, sole executor.

WILL OF JOHN PITTS—1729.

On the 10th June, 1731, James Pitts was appointed Executor of his father's estate by Josiah Willard, Judge of Probate for the County of Suffolk. The will that day proven was as follows:

In the name of God, Amen. This 10th day of October, 1729, I, John Pitts, of Boston, give and bequeath to Elizabeth, my well-beloved wife £1,000. To my daughter, Elizabeth Hall, wife to Hugh Hall, £1,000, and to her and her husband the use of the brick house wherein they live, during their natural lives, and to the longest liver of them during his or her natural life, and after that I give and bequeath the brick house and land belonging to it, to Pitts Hall, their son, and to his heirs and assigns forever.

I give and bequeath to my daughter, Sarah Stoddard, £1,000, wife to Wm. Stoddard, and to her and her husband, to the longest liver of them, the use of my brick house wherein they now live, during their natural lives, and after their decease I give and bequeath ye brick house and land belonging to it to my grandson, their son, John Stoddard, and to his heirs and assigns forever; I give and bequeath to my wife, Elizabeth Pitts, one full third part of all my real estate, and the whole of my household stuff and plate. All the rest of my estate, both personal and real bonds, mortgages, goods, warehouseing, lands, debts, effects and things, in all or any part of the world, I give,

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*NOTE.—Susannah Jacobs was probably daughter of Wm. and Susannah Hasey, of Rumney Marsh (now Revere); born May 30, 1660.

Her father was of the Artillery Co., in 1652.

She married James Lindall; left one child, Elizabeth, who married John Pitts, the first settler; she afterward married John Jacobs, and survived him. April 19, 1711, she deeded to John Pitts "in consideration of his marriage to Elizabeth, only daughter of me, my tenement in Sudbury street, now occupied by him." She also made deed of gift to him Aug. 23, 1717, of house, land and wharf near the great drawbridge, Boston.

Mr. Brinley has a fine portrait of her at Tyngsboro.

devise and bequeath to my now only son, James Pitts, now student of Harvard College in Cambridge, and to his heirs and assigns forever.

Witnesses: ANDREW HALL, JOHN BENNET and OWEN HARRIS.

INVENTORY OF JAMES PITTS.

As some of this generation may be interested in seeing what a Boston gentleman of 1776 possessed, the following abstract of the inventory of James Pitts is added. His son, John, was the administrator, and his bond was signed by Gen. Benjamin Lincoln* and Moses Gill, dated May 7, 1776, Book 75, p. 208, and is recited as being "in the State of Massachusetts Bay:" 1,232 oz. wrought plate, 42 gold rings ;† 3 gold watches, a gold chain, snuff box and whistle ; 1 watch, Prince's metal, 2 cases China-handle knives and forks, 24 yards silk for men's wear ; 3¾ yards velvet for men's wear, 1 pair spurs and snuff box ; 3 horses and old saddle ; 1 chariot, 1 old chariot on slay runners ; 1 four-wheeled carriage and a sedan ; 11 pictures, called cartoons, 1 single-horse chaise, 3 snuff boxes ; sheets, rugs and blankets, feather-beds, bedsteads and curtains, tables, chairs, glass case, draws and desks, large carpets, quilts and floor cloths ; brass, pewter, copper and ironware, about 600 hogsheads salt, a negro boy and clothes, 2 large rolling-stones for garden ; a parcel of English goods, various sorts, clock, lanthorn, buckets, China Delph, glass and stoneware, tablecloths, napkins, towels, etc.;" so much for personal property. Real estate was farm and marsh, at Pullings Pt.; the Mansion house and land adjoining ; a house at New Boston, near to Dea. Newell ; Blanchard's estate and pasture ; land where Low lived ; a chaise-house and land ; old house and land ; house at town dock ; wharf-houses and stores ; wharf house on C. street ; Do. on Long wharf ; Murray's house, etc.; old wharfs. (Probate Records 82 p. 17.)

WILLS AND ESTATES.

James Pitts was executor under the wills of his father John Pitts, 1731, his grandmother Susannah Jacobs, 1733, and his wife's father, James Bowdoin, 1747—all large estates, and for his sons Thos. (1769) and James (1772). John Pitts, oldest son of James, was executor for his father, John Pitts, in 1776; his brother Wm., in 1785; his brother Lendall, in 1788.

*Secretary of War under Gen. Washington.

† It was customary, in olden times, for the nearest friends of deceased persons to wear finger rings in memory of the departed. On the 13th of August, 1881, I was shown two broad, heavy rings—one worn for many years, last past, by Lendall Pitts Cazeau in memory of Elizabeth Lindall Pitts, 1683-1769, and the other worn for many years by Robert C. Winthrop, in memory of Elizabeth Bowdoin Pitts, 1717-1771, which, he said, had been worn by his mother most of her life. G.

Margaret G. Pitts, of Boston, gentlewoman, daughter of Lendall and Elizabeth Fitch Pitts, made her will 24th July, 1823; proved Oct. 13, 1823. "To James Merrill, Boston, merchant, Robert Brinley, Tyngsboro, gentleman, all my right, title and estate of and to a certain lot of land held in common with said Brinley on Kennebec River, Me., supposed to contain 400 acres. Also all property devised to me by the Hon. Jona. Warner, of Portsmouth; they to hold it till it can be advantageously sold, in trust for my sister Eliza. W. Cazeaux, wife of Gerard Cazeaux, of Barbasto, France, and also the children of my brother, William Pitts."

[The Boston *Gazette and Country Journal*, October 21, 1771. No. 863.]

Yesterday died here in the fifty-fifth year of her age, Mrs. Elizabeth Pitts, consort of the Hon. James Pitts, and a daughter of the late Hon. James Bowdoin (deceased.)

Though funeral characters are frequently disgustful, from the length and extravagance of them, it is but just, on this occasion, to say that in the several relations of life, Mrs. Pitts discharged the duties of them with the utmost vigilance and fidelity, and at the same time in a manner so engaging as to make her esteemed and beloved in them all.

Her friends have reason to console themselves under their great loss from this consideration, that her departure from the present state was introductive to another in which they have sufficient ground to hope she is admitted to the happiness prepared for the virtuous beyond the grave; a happiness lasting as her spiritual nature, and equal to its powers of reception.

"Safe is she lodg'd above these rolling spheres;
The baleful influence of whose giddy dance
Sheds sad vicissitude on all beneath.
Here teems with revolutions every hour;
Each moment has its sickle emulous
Of Time's enormous scythe, whose ample sweep
Strikes empires from the root; each moment plays
His little weapon in the narrower sphere
Of sweet domestic comfort, and cuts down
The fairest bloom of sublunary bliss.
Let wisdom blossom from this mortal wound."

[Copy from Vol. XXI, New Eng. Gen. Reg., p. 286.]

Robert Brinley, Esq., died at his residence, in Tyngsboro, on the 24th of March, 1867, at the advanced age of ninety-two years and six months. His father was Nathaniel, son of Col. Francis Brinley, of Roxbury, and his mother, Catharine, was a daughter of the Hon. George Craddock, of Boston, Vice Judge of the Court of Admiralty.

The subject of this notice was born at the house, in Roxbury, of his uncle, Hon. Robert Auchmuty, a Vice Judge of the Admiralty, on the 27th of September, 1774. Intending to be a merchant, he entered into the counting-room of Oliver Brewster, of Boston, and, in the year 1797, formed a partnership in business with Hon. James Lloyd, formerly a Senator in Congress, from Massachusetts. He passed several years in Europe, and, soon after his return home, he gave up mercantile pursuits. On the 22d of September, 1801, he was married to Elizabeth, only child of John Pitts, and grand-daughter of Hon. Judge John Tyng, of Tyngsboro, and established himself in that town. Having a very extensive landed estate to superintend, he devoted himself, to a late period of his life, to its management. He was, in air and manner, a gentleman of the old school. He was genial, urbane and with a hand open as day to every object of benevolence or utility. He has gone to his rest with the universal respect and affectionate remembrance of the people among whom he moved unostentatiously for so many years.

Same volume, p. 185, has an interesting account of Hon. George Sullivan, who married, in 1809, Sarah Winthrop, daughter of Sir John Temple and Elizabeth Bowdoin. Mr. Sullivan left two sons, both of whom took the name of Bowdoin, from the will of Sarah, daughter of William and niece of Gov. James Bowdoin, whose son, James Bowdoin, was her first husband. Her second husband was Gen. Henry Dearborn, for whom the forts at Detroit and Chicago were named, as well as one of the most beautiful residence avenues in the latter city.

The Boston *Evening Transcript* of December 9, 1864, has the following notice:

Death of a Brave Young Soldier.—Intelligence has just been received of the death of Nathaniel Brinley, Jr., of Tyngsboro, on the 13th of last September, at Andersonville, Ga. He joined the First Massachusetts Regiment of Heavy Artillery as a private, with other patriotic young men of his town, and cheerfully surrendered the charms of an enviable home from a high sense of obligation to his country. Of vigorous form, genial disposition, liberal heart and hand, his presence was a joy to his comrades. He persistently refused promotion, preferring to prove by his acts that he was not urged to his course by the spur of a commission in prospective. At the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, in May last, he was wounded, taken prisoner, carried to Lynchburg, Va., and thence to Andersonville, where he died after months of foul incarceration. Thus has passed away another youthful victim to the Molock of rebellion. But the memory of his gallantry, his loving and unselfish nature and conscientious devotion to duty, will be ever and freshly remembered.

Note.—At the old Brinley Mansion at Tyngsboro there are several valuable old portraits.

One of Zackary Craddock, D. D., Provost of Eton College, in the time of Charles II, a descendant of Matthew Craddock, the first Governor of Massachusetts Colony.

One of Gov. James Bowdoin.

One of Susannah Jacobs, whose first husband was James Lindall. She was mother of Mrs. John Pitts, and grandmother of James Pitts.

One of Robert Brinley and his wife, painted by Lawson.

One of James Pitts, and one of Elizabeth Bowdoin, his wife, painted by Blackburn in 1757.

POWER OF ATTORNEY—JOHN AUDLIE TO JOHN PITTS—1695.

John Audlie, of Branscomb, in the county of Devon. Whereas, John Carter, heretofore of Branscomb aforesaid, and late of Charlestown, in N. E., deceased, had an estate, now occupied by his widow, lately intermarried with one Mr. John Amerson, a schoolmaster, and as said Carter did give the house unto James Audlie, of the same, his nephew, also deceased, said John Audlie being brother of said James Audlie.

Now, in consideration of the trust I have in John Pitts, of Lyme Regis, in Dorset, merchant, now resident of Boston, N. E., I make my friend, John Pitts, my attorney. I set my hand and seal, and Bazuth Pitts, Mayor of the Burrough of Lyme Regis, hath set his seal, sexto die, August, 1695.

JOHN AUDLIE.

Stamped in
presence of
JAMES PITTS, BENJ. MITCHELL.

WM. PRINGE, Vicar of Branscomb,
JOHN BANFIELD,
NATH. DOWNE,
Church Wardens.

JOHN BANFIELD,
JOHN CHANNON,
Overseers of
the Poor,

Testify that John and James Audlie were the sons of James Audlie, now living, and Sarah, his late wife, deceased.

Entered Lib. 14 fol. 264 Suf. Deeds, at the request of John Pitts, September 30, 1696.

NOTE.—John Carter, of Charlestown, mariner, married Sarah Stower, who afterward married the Rev. John Emerson. By will he gave his house to his servant and kinsman, John Audlie, if his wife die or marry again. See Wyman, p. 192.

POWER OF ATTORNEY—SARAH MASON TO JOHN PITTS.

By this publick Instrument of Procuration or Letter of Attorney, be it known and manifest unto all People that on the fourth day of March Anno Dom 1730, Before me, John Ruck, Notary Public, admitted and sworn, dwelling in London, and in the presence of the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed, personally appeared Mrs. Sarah Mason, of London, Spinster, Executrix of the last will and testament of her Father, Stephen Mason, late of London, merchant, deceased, which said appearer declared to have made, ordained and constituted, and by these presents doth make, ordain and con-

stitute Mr. John Pitts, of Boston, in New England, her true and lawful Attorney, giving, and by these presents granting, unto her said Attorney full power and authority for and in the name and on behalf of the said constituent (Executrix as aforesaid) to grant, bargain, sell, assign, convey and set over all such lands, Tenements, Hereditaments, Houses or Plantations, as were part or parcel of or any ways belonging to the estate of her late Father, Stephen Mason, deceased, in New England aforesaid, which now are the property of her the said constituent, as she is daughter and Executrix to her said late Father, to any person or persons whatsoever, and in the name and on behalf of the said constituent to sign, seal, execute and deliver in due form to, or to the use of, such person or persons as shall purchase the same or any part thereof, all such deeds of Lease and Release, conveyances or other writings and instruments as shall be necessary, and the custom of the place shall require and to receive the purchase money or effects that shall be paid for all or any the said lands, tenements, hereditaments, houses or plantations aforesaid, upon recoveries and receipts, to make and give due and sufficient acquittances and discharges. Also, if need be, to appear, and the person of the said constituent to represent in any Court or Courts convenient: To sue, arrest, seize, sequester, attach, imprison and to condemn, and out of prison again, when needful to deliver *cum facultate substituendi*, and generally in and about the premises to do, say, transact and accomplish all that shall be requisite and necessary, as fully, amply and effectually as she, the said constituent, might or could do, if personally present, she hereby promising to hold and ratify, for good and valid, all and whatsoever her said Attorney or his substitutes shall lawfully do or cause to be done in or about the premises, by virtue of these presents. In witness whereof, the said Sarah Mason, the constituent, doth hereunto set her hand and seal, n London, the day and year within written.

SARAH MASON. [L. S.]

Sealed and delivered,
being duly stampt,
in the presence of us,
SAM'L CARY, JOHN CROCKER.

SEAL.

In testimonium Veritatis,
JOHN RUCK, Not. Pub.
1730.

BOND.

Know all men by these presents that we, James Pitts, as Principal, James Bowdoin and Stephen Boutineau, as sureties, all of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, are holden and stand firmly bound to Edward Hutchinson, John Osborn, Jacob Wendell, William Foye, Samuel Welles, Samuel Sewall, Hugh Hall, Joshua Winslow and Edward Bromfield, all of Boston aforesaid, in the sum of five hundred and thirty-two pounds, lawful silver money of the Province aforesaid, for which payment, well and truly to be made, we jointly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals. Dated in Boston the thirtieth day of November, Anno Domini 1733.

The condition of this obligation is such that if the said James Pitts, James Bowdoin, Stephen Boutineau, or either of them, shall pay the said Edward Hutchinson, John Osborn, Jacob Wendell, William Foye, Samuel Welles, Samuel Sewall, Hugh Hall, Joshua Winslow and Edward Bromfield, two hundred and eighty ounces of coined silver of sterling alloy, or nineteen ounces nine penny-weight and fourteen grains of coined standard gold, both Troy weight, on the thirtieth day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord 1735, then this obligation to be void, else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

In presence of	James Pitts.	[L. S.]
Rich'd Hubbard.	James Bowdoin.	[L. S.]
John Sewall.	Steph. Boutineau.	[L. S.]

Know all men by these presents that we, James Pitts, as principal, and James Bowdoin and William Bowdoin, as sureties, all of Boston, in the County of Suffolk, in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, in New England, are holden and stand firmly bound to Edward Hutchinson, Samuel Welles, Samuel Sewall, Hugh Hall, Joshua Winslow, Andrew Oliver, Edmund Quincy, Thomas Oxnard and James Boutineau, all of Boston aforesaid, in the sum of three hundred and fifty-four pounds, in lawful silver money of the Province aforesaid, to be paid to the said Edward Hutchinson, Samuel Welles, Samuel Sewall, Hugh Hall, Joshua Winslow, Andrew Oliver, Edmund Quincy, Thomas Oxnard and James Boutineau, their executors, administrators or assigns, for the which payment well and truly to be made, we jointly and severally bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals. Dated in Boston the first day of August, Anno Domini 1740. The condition of this obligation is such that if the said James Pitts, James Bowdoin and William Bowdoin shall pay the said Edward Hutchinson, Samuel Welles, Samuel Sewall, Hugh Hall, Joshua Winslow, Andrew Oliver, Edmund Quincy, Thomas Oxnard and James Boutineau, one hundred and twenty-seven ounces of coined silver of sterling alloy, or twelve ounces of coined standard gold, both Troy weight, on the 31st day of December, which will be in the year of our Lord 1748, then this obligation to be void, else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

In presence of	Jas Pitts.	[L. S.]
Jno. Foye, Jun.	James Bowdoin.	[L. S.]
Edm'd Quincy, Junr.	Willm Bowdoin.	[L. S.]

The originals of the two above bonds are in my possession. I have not learned the object of them, but was struck with the family character of them. James Pitts, the Principal, was a brother-in-law of Hugh Hall and Stephen Boutineau, and son-in-law of James Bowdoin, and his wife was a niece of Wm. Bowdoin.

I have the original manuscript of the following receipt of Thomas Flucker, for part of his wife's share of the Bowdoin estate, as follows:

Boston, May 10, 1748.

This day settled the account between the late James Bowdoin, Esq., deceased, and myself, and the balance due from me is £7,074 7s. 10d., and

have received my proportion of silver-plate, amounting to £694 4s. 1d., and, in cash, £4,897 8s. 1d ; all which, with the above receipts, amount to £27,500, old tenor, and is so much in part of my wife's share in the estate of the said James Bowdoin, Esq., deceased, having signed two receipts of this tenor and date as above. THOMAS FLUCKER.

£	s.	d.
7,074	7	10
694	4	1
4,897	8	1
14,834	0	0

£27,500.

Also the following:

Received of my father, Bowdoin, the day after marriage to his daughter Judith, his note of hand for the 27th of October, 1732, £2,000.

THOMAS FLUCKER.

LETTERS.

The following letters now in my possession indicate that Mr. James Pitts and his brothers-in-law once owned the Elizabeth Islands, off the coast of Rhode Island Naushan—the largest of the range—has been made a Paradise by Hon. John M. Forbes, a great capitalist of Boston:

GOV. JAMES BOWDOIN TO JAMES PITTS.

BOSTON, Nov. 27, 1752.

MR. PITTS :

Sir—I pray you to send me £200, in order to dispatch Mr. Williams, with whom we have finished in relation to the Mayhew affair. I will take care you shall be in the same footing in all respects as I have, in proportion to your right in the Island. Your most humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

GOV. JAMES BOWDOIN TO JAMES PITTS.

BOSTON, December 22, 1752.

Received of Mr. James Pitts £66, lawful money, towards paying the consideration money to Mr. Mayhew for suffering a common recovery of Elizabeth Islands, belonging to the estate of James Bowdoin, deceased, which sum is to be charged to said estate. JAMES BOWDOIN.

LETTER FROM COL. HENRY JACKSON TO GEN. KNOX, DATED BOSTON, MAY 27, 1777.

[He writes:] "We had high Fun last Thursday at Town meeting ; at the choice of representatives there was great opposition, North against South. Coll° C. & Coll° A. headed. The North list was—Deacon Davis, Ellis Gray, John Brown, Deacon Jefferds, Oliver Wendell, the Hon. John Hancock, John Pitts. Our list was—Deacon Davis, Henderson Inches, John Pitts, Ellis Gray, Oliver Wendell, Jos^h Barrell, Sam^l A Otis. You know the North seldom or ever get beat in *Pope* affairs—they were too strong for us, and they got their List in, but by a small majority." (Vol. IV, p. 6, Knox MSS.)

It is interesting to note the popularity of Mr. Pitts in the fact of his name being in both lists.

SENATOR JOHN PITTS TO COL. WARNER.

Boston, May 30, 1781.

Dear Brother—I wrote you how ill Mrs. Pitts was and my apprehensions that I should soon be a very unhappy man, which is now too true, for my dear Mrs. Pitts died last Friday, and yesterday we committed her remains to the place of silence. I would not wish to describe to you, were it possible for language to do it, my distress. In short, every comfort to me is struck dead except that of my dear little girl, who is my only happiness (if anything can be such), and my pain—I need the aid of a Philosopher and a Christian to reconcile me to my hard fate. But why should I trouble you with my distress when it will not lighten it? Your sympathy and that of dear Betsey I know will be great. Tell her I conjure her not to place an undue affection upon anything human, and then she may escape the misery I am plunged in. Altho' in a situation not to think of anything but what I would wish to avoid, I am constrained to acquaint you that the unimproved lands belonging to our Father's estate are so taxed in paper and silver money that unless some means can be provided to pay the taxes, there may be danger of a sale of part by the Collectors, who take every advantage, and our laws favour it. There are offers made for several tracts, which our Brothers think, & indeed I do, that it will be the best to part with, for they bring in nothing, are taxed beyond all conscience, & stript of what is valuable upon them besides. They therefore have begged me to know your & Sister Warner's inclination, as they say they are at all events determined to part with what they have a right to in them; but if any one tract is sold, it would be best it should be all sold together. There are 300 acres in the Town of Charlestown, for which there is an offer of £400, which would have been sold in Father's lifetime, had not the land come by our mother. There is another tract of 400 acres in Granville, which there is an offer of £800 for, & also a tract of 3,000 acres in Great Barrington, for which persons now apply to buy & will give £3,000 for. Under all circumstances our Brothers are desirous these lands should be sold. Pray let me know your & Sister Warner's mind, which they are desirous of knowing.

Col. Tyng, Miss Betsey Tyng & Miss Fanny Tyler are with me and present their regards.

I am, with due regard to you & dear Betsey,

Your affectionate but unhappy Brother,

Jn°. Pitts.

SENATOR JOHN PITTS TO COL. WARNER.

Boston, May 10, 1782.

Dear Brother:

I received your favors, one per the Post, enclosing the Deed of land to Williams executed, part of the money has been received wch when I collect more I presume must be applied to discharge the money due to Mrs. Bayard's* children for the money in the hands of my late Father, as executor to the estate of old Mr. Bowdoin, dec'd. The difficulty to obtain money is here beyond description & the taxes so great that the people are running mad. As fast as I can collect money I shall. Mr. Alexander has recd 100 dollars.

*Mrs. Bayard was a sister of Gov. Bowdoin. Her daughter Phœbe was the wife of Gen. Arthur St. Clair, whose life has been recently published by William Henry Smith.

Since I wrote you last, we have been agreeing for the sale of the 1600 Acres of land in Granville, and after a long time, determined upon the price, being the most that can be obtained wch is £1,000, & I find that People whom we may depend upon, advised to the sale of it, as the price of land falls every day in consequence of the taxes & scarcity of money.

Inclosed is the Deed of the land, we have also disposed of Vassalls place at Cambridge to Nathaniel Tracy, Esq. [now Samuel Batchelder's] for Eight hundred and fifty pounds, payable in one year, & to take his note of hand for the money. It is looked upon to be sold for a very great price. I presume there is no doubt of his being able to pay for it, altho he is very largely concerned in shipping, but if there is a risk, it is sold at a price in proportion to it. Mr. Tracy was willing to give separate notes on interest to each, as my Brothers might take their pay in a way of trade, if it should so happen that it may be more convenient to Mr. Tracy & them; I shall take his note to you in the same manner as our own. The deed to Mr. Tracy is inclosed, wch with the other to Robinson for Granville land is inclosed. One half the money Robinson is to pay next November & the other half in the Novr following, & to give other land for security until the money is paid, the reason of wch is, he bought the land to dispose of in lots & must give deeds. I wish to have all matters of the Family settled, and as soon as my Brother will say the time, they will certainly attend to it, I will inform you.

I want to see you & Betsey, but when it will be I cannot say, for I am horseless & spiritless; notwithstanding I find myself under a necessity to gratify the earnest desire of my dear little Girls friends at Dunstable to carry her there this summer. If I can make a stretch to Portsmouth depend on it I shall, but I hope to see you and sister Warner there or in Boston, or both.

The court being just agoing to rise, I have only time to add that all friends are well except Miss Betsy B. Temple who is very ill, the Doctor fears she is in a hectic, but she is for two or three days past a little better.

My regards to Betsy, whom I want to see, and compliments to your Family & friends.

Your affectionate Brother,

Jno Pitts.

P. S. Please to send the enclosed Deeds as soon as convenient, perhaps you will find a private hand as postage for double letters is high. Tell Betsy her little namesake is well & all at once taken to her heels and is full of mischief. I must refer you to the Brigadier for all matters passing in town.

SENATOR JOHN PITTS TO MAJ. GEN. KNOX.

The following letter, from the Hon. John Pitts to Gen. Knox, is in answer to one from him dated October 8, 1782, in relation to the return to Boston of a son of Isaac Winslow, Esq. The young man was eighteen years of age, and had a brother and sister in Boston:

Boston, November 5th, 1782.

Sir:

The observations respecting young Mr. Winslow, in your letter which I had the honor to receive, no doubt are well founded, and therefore I appre-

hend there can be no objection in reason to his inserting himself into this State by the most convenient opportunity, but I can't say what would be the public opinion. I have not attempted to ascertain it by laying your letter before the General Court, as, prior to my receiving it, the Court had determined to take up no more private matters during ye present session than what had been already received. If you should think it proper to risk his coming into this State, a letter to the Governor similar to that you wrote me might be a good method to present him to public view. Another thought has suddenly occurred to my mind, the propriety of which I must refer wholly to your consideration. It is, if you can consistently admit Mr. Winslow into your lines, and take him into the service, his having been in arms would be a powerful argument for his return in this State, and the recognising him as a Subject.

I wish it was in my power to facilitate his return, but if application should be made to the General Court while I am a member, my endeavours shall not be wanting.

I am, Sir, with esteem and respect,
Your most hum. Servant,
JOHN PITTS.

P. S.
My respecful Compliments
to your Lady.

Hon. Major General KNOX.
(Vol. X, p. 82, Knox Mss., New Eng. Hist. and Gen. Soc.)

JOHN ELLIOTT TO JOHN PITTS.

CAVAN (Ireland), February 8, 1793.

SIR:

Mrs. Elliott and I flatter ourselves, you'll excuse the Trouble of our requesting, you'll be so obliging, as to transmit a statement of our demand on your father, as one of the Executors of his Grandfather, the intercourse between your capital, and Dublin being now frequent, affords opportunities, which heretofore, we had not the convenience of. I had the honor to receive Mr. Bowdoin's account a few days ago, to whom I shall write by the same ship, that conveys this from Dublin, I am infinitely obliged to him, for the Trouble he has taken, and also for the clear, and candid manner, he has conducted himself towards us. By his abstract, I observe your name mentioned, as having paid some money for particular purposes to our Debit, I beg leave to refer you to him, for the manner, in which he proposes to exonerate himself from his Trust, which, I shall cheerfully adopt, but not until, I have a duplicate of yours, that both may be liquidated at the same time.

Mrs. Elliott begs to present her sincere Regard to all your family.

I am Sir
Your Obedient and
very Humble Servant
JOHN ELLIOTT.*

*Elliott of the English Army was husband of Sarah Bayard, sister of Mrs. Gen. Arthur St. Clair. He died 1810, she died 1821.

SHRIMPTON HUTCHINSON TO JOHN PITTS.

BOSTON, 6th July, 1784.

JOHN PITTS, Esq.:

Dear Sir—I hope your country retirement, as it grows more familiar, will be more agreeable. Your Uncle and Aunt Bowdoin set out for Naushan last Wednesday, and were at some uncertainty whether they should find their son and daughter at the Island, as Mr. Bowdoin, Jun., has greatly recovered his health, and talked of being at home last week. As he does not make his appearance here, I suppose they all met at the Island. We have no news here to entertain you with. Mr. Tracey paid his bond, principal and interest, £360, to Mr. Gore, the beginning of last week, and the first of this month I paid Mrs. Hayley the balance of acct., £130. I hope soon to see you in town, and I am, with the greatest regard and esteem,

Your affectionate friend,

SHRIMPTON HUTCHINSON.

JOHN PITTS TO COL. WARNER.

BOSTON, Feb'y. 23d, 1797.

DEAR BROTHER—I arrived here the last evening, where I have not been for three months, by reason of the severity of the weather and by bad traveling. Here I find people failing in trade, notwithstanding the excess of show in dress and feasting, Plays and every kind of dissipation.

I was glad to hear you and Betsy, &c., are well, wch aunt Bowdoin informed me of through Granville Temple [succeeded Sir John Temple as ninth Baronet], who I hear has made a visit to you. He has made application to Mr. Russell, and the matter is settled to take each other "for better, for worse." He will realize not less than £30,000 sterg. by her.

Judge Tyng is still above the surface. If he survives another year, it is presumed he will not be much more than a child. But he has lately determined to have his coffin made. He stood with firmness and fortitude of mind to be measured, and his observations upon the expectation of dissolution would do honor to any man. He is now like a candle burnt to the socket, and the unexpected glimmerings may continue, when the lamp of life, with respect to many of us, may be extinguished; but, those of the faculty conversant with him, don't expect he will reach the age of 93, upon wch he is just entering. The 25th of the last month, he arrived at the age of 92, wch was celebrated by a company at his house at dinner, of 26 in number, and he was as gay as a young man.

I long to have an opportunity to see you, Betsy, &c., which as soon as the spring opens I shall attempt.

I am, with affection, &c.,

JOHN PITTS.

HONO. JONA WARNER, ESQ.

[Advertizement.]

The Proprietors of the Kennebeck purchase from the late colony of New Plymouth, hereby inform the Publick that besides the twelve Townships mentioned in their advertizement of the 16th February last, they have agreed to appropriate a tract of land on each side of Kennebeck River, for the accomo-

dation of such families as may be inclined to settle there. The land referred to is situated a little above Cobbiseconte River, where the navigation of Kennebeck River is good for vessels of 100 tons burthen, and continues so several miles higher, as far as Fort Western. They propose to grant to each settling family 250 acres, viz., 100 acres front upon Kennebeck River 50 rods, and run one mile back, and 150 acres at 2 miles from said river, on condition that each family build an house not less than 18 feet square, and 7 feet stud; clear and make fit for tillage 5 acres within 3 years, and dwell upon the premises personally, or by their substitutes, for the term of 7 years more. As this land is exceeding good, and is attended with many natural advantages, the families that apply for settlements there must be well recommended for their sobriety, honesty and industry, and such of that character who apply first will have the first choice of the lots to be granted.

For further particulars enquire of JAMES BOWDOIN, JAMES PITTS, SILVESTER GARDINER and BENJAMIN HALLOWELL, ESQRS., of Boston, and Mr. William Bowdoin, at Needham, Committee to the Kennebeck Proprietors.

DAVID JEFFRIES,
Proprietor's Clerk.

BOSTON, 20th February, 1761.

THE MOUNTFORT BIBLE,

now owned by Isabella D. Goodwin, youngest child of Samuel Mountfort Pitts, is a very rare book. It is a copy of the same edition owned and used daily by old Samuel Adams, the Father of the Revolution. See Vol. III, p. 336, of Life of Samuel Adams, by Wells, where he says: "This Bible is now the property of Mr. Drake, the well-known antiquarian." It is a large folio, being about seventeen inches high, and three and one-half inches thick, and of proportionate width; the paper and print are beautiful, and the binding was of the most substantial kind, with massive brass mountings and clasps. The Old Testament was printed in 1708, the New in 1707, and the Psalms in 1679, the last at Edinburgh and the first at London. Copies of this edition of the Bible are of exceeding rarity. Our great Bible collector, George Livermore, has never yet been able to obtain one, and the venerable Dr. Jenks has remarked to the editor that he has seen no other copy of the edition. It contains several beautifully executed maps."

The Mountfort Bible is one of that edition. The Psalms were printed by Ivan Tyler, in 1679, during the reign of Charles II, and is the paraphrase approved by the General Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland, November 23, 1649, during the reign of Cromwell and the Commonwealth. The other books, including the Apocrapha, were published in 1707 and 1708, during the reign of Queen Anne. The Coat

of Arms of England, Scotland and Ireland, with the rose, thistle and shamrock, is on each title page.

The following entries, among others, appear in the family record:

Jonathan Mountfort Jr., married to Sarah Bridge, November 25, 1742, by the Rev. Mr. William Wallsted.

Sarah Mountfort, daughter to Jonathan and Sarah Mountfort, born May 11, 1745.

Jonathan Mountfort, son to Jonathan and Sarah Mountfort, born December 6, 1746.

Hannah Mountfort, born June 27, 1750.

Sarah Mountfort, married to William Hitchborn, September 2, 1762.

Jonathan Mountfort, Jr., married to Mary Bole, December 30, 1772,

Hannah Mountfort, married to William Nathaniel Greenough, April 25, 1775.

Hannah Greenough, born August 8, 1776.

Thomas Pitts, married to Elizabeth Mountfort, in Chelmsford, at the house of his father, Samuel Pitts, Esq., on Tuesday, the 9th of November, 1802, by the Rev. Nathaniel Lawrence, of Tyngsboro.

William Stoddard Bridge, married to Mary Pitts, daughter of the late Samuel Pitts, of Chelmsford, at Fort Preble, November 23, 1811, by the Rev. Mr. Sawyer, of Cape Elizabeth.

Samuel Mountfort Pitts, first son of Thomas and Elizabeth Pitts, born in Fort Preble, near Portland, April 17, 1810.

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